

California – Child and Family Services Review Signature Sheet

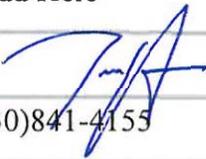
For submittal of: CSA SIP Progress Report

County	Siskiyou
SIP Period Dates	June 1, 2014 – May 30, 2019
Outcome Data Period	Q4 2013

County Child Welfare Agency Director

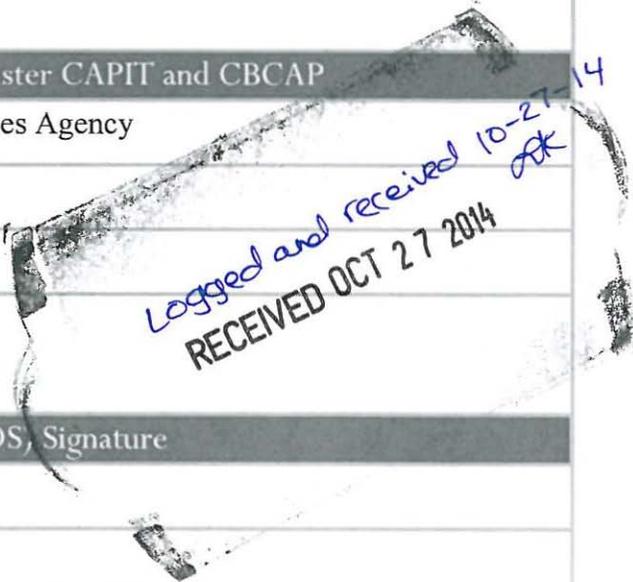
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Board of Supervisors (BOS) Signature

BOS Approval Date	
Name	
Signature*	

Mail the original Signature Sheet to:

Children's Services Outcomes and Accountability Bureau
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*Signatures must be in blue ink

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California - Child and Family Services Review

County Self-Assessment

JUNE 2014-MAY 2019



Table of Contents

INTRODUCTION..... PAGE 02

C-CFSR PLANNING TEAM & CORE REPRESENTATIVES..... PAGE 03

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE..... PAGE 06

PUBLIC AGENCY CHARACTERISTICS... PAGE 20

STATE AND FEDERALLY MANDATED CHILD WELFARE/PROBATION INITIATIVES..... PAGE 29

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DESIGNATED COMMISSION, BOARD OR BODIES.....PAGE 30

SYSTEMIC FACTORS.....PAGE 32

CRITICAL INCIDENT REVIEW PROCESS.....PAGE 45

PEER REVIEW SUMMARY.....PAGE 46

OUTCOME DATA MEASURES.....PAGE 52

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS.....PAGE 73

ATTACHMENTS

SISKIYOU COUNTY SERVICE ARRAY... ATTACHMENT 1

SISKIYOU FAMILY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTERS ACTIVITY AND WORKSHOP CALENDAR... ATTACHMENT 2

II. Introduction

The Siskiyou County Health and Human Services Agency and Siskiyou County Probation Department, in collaboration with California State Department of Social Services (CDSS), Outcomes and Accountability Bureau and Office of Child Abuse Prevention, were the planning team for the County Self Assessment (CSA) process. Beginning in January of 2014, regularly scheduled planning meetings were held, in person and by conference call, between core representatives and CDSS staff. Dates for the Peer Review and timelines for report finalization were agreed upon by participants. Information from the community and stakeholders was sought as part of the CSA process. The Child Abuse Prevention Council and Family/Community Resource Center (FRC/CRC) network were contacted for input. Community and stakeholder feedback was sought during the stakeholder focus group using a table with current Siskiyou County data entitled "*How Are the Children*" and a survey consisting of nine questions involving service provision in the county.

Additional information was gathered during focus groups and through individual contact with stakeholders who did not initially respond to requests for input. For identified stakeholders who were unable to attend the meeting, input was sought via the survey. Additionally, surveys were presented to Independent Living Skills Program youth during one of their meetings and telephone calls were made to care providers, local Tribes, and other stakeholders. Child Welfare and Probation staff were queried for their input. Feedback and recommendations from the Peer Review, held in April 2014, provided valuable information. Information received from the various sources was incorporated, as appropriate, in the CSA. The County's analysis of Child Welfare data, with regard to California Child and Family Services Review (C-CFSR) measures, is also an important aspect of the assessment and this report.

III. C-CFSR Planning Team & Core Representatives

A. C-CFSR TEAM

Siskiyou County's C-CFSR Team Members are:

Name	Job Title	Agency/Department
Terry Barber	Director	Health and Human Services Agency
Katherine O'Shea	Director	Health and Human Services Agency, Social Services Division
Debbie Walsh	Deputy Director	Health and Human Services Agency, Social Services Division
Connie Lathrop	Program Manager	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children's Services Division
Alix Byrd	Staff Services Analyst I	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children's Services Division
Todd Heie	Chief Probation Officer	Siskiyou County Probation Department
James Roach	Deputy Chief Probation Officer	Siskiyou County Juvenile Probation Department

B. CORE REPRESENTATIVES AND STAKEHOLDERS:

Siskiyou County’s Core Representatives and Stakeholders are:

Name	Job Title	Agency/Department
Terry Barber	Director	Health and Human Services Agency
Katherine O’Shea	Director	Health and Human Services Agency, Social Services Division
Debbie Walsh	Deputy Director	Health and Human Services Agency, Social Services Division
Connie Lathrop	Program Manager	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children’s Services Division
Alix Byrd	Staff Services Analyst I	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children’s Services Division
Jim Gail	Social Worker IV	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children’s Services Division
Suzanne Hogue	Social Worker III	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children’s Services Division
Jennifer Moody	Social Worker II	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children’s Services Division
Tina Thompson	Social Worker II	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children’s Services Division
Angeline Zufelt	Social Worker II	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children’s Services Division
Valerie Linfoot	Social Worker II	Health and Human Services Agency, Adult and Children’s Services Division
Deborah Dickens	Drug Court Coordinator	Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Services Division
Tracie Lima	Deputy Director	Health and Human Services Agency, Behavioral Health Services Division
James Roach	Deputy Chief Probation Officer	Siskiyou County Juvenile Probation Department
Holly Speake	Adoptions Specialist	California Department of Social Services, Adoptions
Hilary Locke	Adoptions Specialist	California Department of Social Services, Adoptions
Cliff Lantz	Director	Court Appointed Special Advocates
Laura Stapp	Program Manager	Northern Valley Catholic Social Services
Jill Phillips	Executive Director	Community Services Council
Jim Roseman	Director	Siskiyou Domestic Violence and Crisis Center
Carla Charraga	Deputy Director	Siskiyou Domestic Violence and Crisis Center
Dana Barton	Deputy County Counsel	Siskiyou County Counsel
Colette Bradley	Foster Care Liaison	Siskiyou County Office of Education
Foster Youth	Independent Living Program	Siskiyou County

C. THE CSA PLANNING PROCESS

Beginning in January, 2014, regularly scheduled planning meetings were held, in person and by conference calls, between Child Welfare, Probation, and CDSS staff. Dates for the peer review and timelines for report finalization were agreed upon by CDSS staff and the core representatives. Close collaboration

between all parties assisted the peer review to be a success and the information gathered was incorporated into this report. The input from Social Workers and Probation staff from other counties provided a fresh outlook to current practices and useful suggestions were made that will be used in analyzing data and preparing for the upcoming System Improvement Plan.

D. PARTICIPATION OF CORE REPRESENTATIVES

All core representatives were involved in the planning process. CDSS staff were available by email and telephone to answer questions and provide guidance and technical assistance. Core representatives and stakeholders were given surveys, which contained Child Welfare and Probation demographic information and questions regarding the services that are currently available to youth and families. They were asked what further efforts and/or improvements could be made in service delivery for youth and families. Core representatives and stakeholders were brought together in a focus group where the survey was discussed. Small groups were formed and common themes were sought to guide the county's improvement in service delivery.

In a separate meeting, youth in the Independent Living Program (ILP) were given the same survey. The ILP coordinator discussed with the youth the challenges that they have faced, as well as positive outcomes. The youth were asked to complete the survey, which provided insightful information from a different perspective.

E. STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK

Stakeholder feedback was sought during the stakeholder meeting, through surveys sent out with invitations to the stakeholder meeting, during focus groups, and by individual contact with stakeholders who did not initially respond to requests for input. Child Welfare and Probation staff were also queried for their input.

Child Welfare and Probation sent invitations to the Karuk Tribe and the Quartz Valley Indian Rancheria leaders and social work staff; however, representatives were unable to attend the meeting and they were engaged individually via face-to-face contact.

IV. Demographic Profile

A. GENERAL COUNTY DEMOGRAPHICS

Siskiyou County is located in the most northern part of California, adjacent with Oregon to the north, with Interstate 5 (I-5) dividing the county lengthwise. While small in population (44,541 in 2013) it is the fifth largest California County by area (6,500 square miles). As you can see by the Total Population chart below, there has been a slight decrease in population over the past five years. Looking at the Child Population chart below Total Population, you can see that there are 927 fewer children now than there were five years ago. Many families have moved to more populous areas in search of jobs. Although there has been a decrease in the number of children in the county, the number of children in out of home care has not decreased.

Service providers tend to be located in the larger cities along the I-5 corridor, with isolated pockets of people living in outlying areas such as Butte Valley to the East and Happy Camp to the west. The City of Yreka is the county seat and has the largest population of Siskiyou cities (7,765 in 2010). Yreka also houses the Siskiyou County Jail, the courthouse, County Government Departments, Forest Service and other governmental employers.

Total Population					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Siskiyou	44,950	44,893	44,875	44,598	44,541
California	37,077,204	37,309,382	37,570,307	37,826,160	38,118,386

Definition: Estimated total population.

Data Source: [As cited on kidsdata.org](http://kidsdata.org), California Dept. of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1990-1999, 2000-2010, 2010-2060 (May 2013); U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Estimates, Vintage 2012 (June 2013); Population Estimates for Cities, Counties and the State, 1991-2000 with 1990 and 2000 Census Counts, 2001–2010 with 2000 and 2010 Census Counts, 2011–2013 with 2010 Census Counts. Accessed at <http://www.dof.ca.gov/research/demographic/data/> (May 2013).

Child Population					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Siskiyou	9,682	9,247	9,107	8,878	8,755
California	9,307,822	9,207,132	9,214,425	9,170,526	9,150,549

Definition: Estimated population under age 18, by age and gender.

Data Source: [As cited on kidsdata.org](http://kidsdata.org), California Dept. of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1990-1999, 2000-2010, 2010-2060 (May 2013); U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Estimates, Vintage 2012 (June 2013).

Age	Female	Male	Total
0-2 Years	613	673	1,286
3-5 Years	697	768	1,465
6-10 Years	1,219	1,297	2,516
11-13 Years	735	723	1,457
14-17 Years	961	1,070	2,031
Total	4,224	4,531	8,755

Definition: Estimated population under age 18, by age and gender.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Dept. of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1990-1999, 2000-2010, 2010-2060 (May 2013); U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Estimates, Vintage 2012 (June 2013).

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
African American/Black	110	108	103	95	95
American Indian/Alaska Native	446	416	408	405	404
Asian American	123	99	100	87	82
Hispanic/Latino	1,663	1,716	1,735	1,703	1,685
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	20	18	19	19	19
White	6,638	6,160	6,002	5,825	5,716
Multiracial	681	733	740	744	753
Total Child Population	9,682	9,247	9,107	8,878	8,755

Definition: Estimated population under age 18, by race/ethnicity.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Dept. of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 2000-2010, 2010-2060 (May 2013); U.S. Census Bureau, Current Population Estimates, Vintage 2012 (June 2013).

Karuk Tribe
Quartz Valley Indian Reservation

There are two Federally Recognized Tribes in Siskiyou County, the Karuk Tribe of California and the Quartz Valley Indian Reservation. Most of the collaboration with the tribal community takes place during prevention activities, with Child Welfare Social Workers and Tribal Social Workers communicating and working together to ensure the safety of the children involved. The Karuk Tribe has their own Children's Court.

Elementary, Secondary, Community Day, and Adult Schools in Siskiyou County	
Districts in County	26
Schools in County	60

Enrollment by Grade, Siskiyou County, 2012-13	
	Enrollment
Kindergarten	508
Grade 1	441
Grade 2	448
Grade 3	424
Grade 4	437
Grade 5	418
Grade 6	427
Grade 7	467
Grade 8	461
Grade 9	493
Grade 10	436
Grade 11	502
Grade 12	436
Total Enrolled	5,898

Definition: Total number of youth enrolled in school.

Data Source: California Department of Education, California Basic Educational Data System (CBEDS). Accessed online at <http://dq.ede.ca.gov/dataquest/Enrollment/GradeEnr.aspx?Year=2012>

13&cChoice=ColInrGrd&cLevel=County&cTopic=Enrollment&cType=ALL&cGender=B&myTimeframe=S&TheCounty=47%2cSISKIYOU1 (March 2014)

High School Dropout Rate			
	2010	2011	2012
Siskiyou	10.3%	8.0%	8.4%
California	16.6%	14.7%	13.1%

Definition: Percentage of public high school students who drop out of high school, based on the four-year adjusted cohort dropout rate (e.g., 2012 figures show that 13.1% of the students who started high school in 2008 statewide dropped out). The adjusted cohort dropout rate measures the percentage of students who exit grades 9-12 without a high school diploma, GED, or special education certificate of completion and do not remain enrolled after the end of the fourth year.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Dept. of Education, California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System (CALPADS). Accessed at <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ds/sd/sd/files/cohort.asp> (Nov. 2013).

The Siskiyou County High School Dropout Rate decreased over the last two years and is below the state average. This may be attributed to the growing number of mentoring services provided to youth in

Siskiyou County that offer educational tutoring, vocational training and leadership development. These services encourage youth to remain in school and obtain the tools necessary to become successful.

Median Family Income (Regions of 20, 000 Residents or more)		
	2010-2012	2009-2011
Siskiyou	\$44,819	\$47,838
California	\$67,458	\$69,160

Definition: The median is the value at which half of the annual family incomes are higher and half of the incomes are lower. These figures have been adjusted for inflation, to enable comparison over time.

Data Source: [As cited on kidsdata.org](http://kidsdata.org). U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (Dec. 2013).

As reflected in the above table, Siskiyou County and California have seen an overall decrease in median family income. In Siskiyou County, the decrease in family income is likely attributed to the higher unemployment rate. Siskiyou County is an economically depressed region. Major employers (such as Crystal Geysers and Coca Cola) were required to lay workers off in an effort to adjust to the struggling economy. Historically, Siskiyou County has been a logging community. However, in 1991 the northern spotted owl was listed as an endangered species. This, in combination with increased federal laws, has greatly reduced the timber industry in Siskiyou County. As a result, the loss of timber harvesting has impacted Siskiyou County's overall economy.

Fair Market Rent by Unit Size, Siskiyou County					
Unit Size	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Studio - 0 Bedrooms	\$486	\$501	\$514	\$469	\$528
1 Bedroom	\$583	\$601	\$617	\$563	\$629
2 Bedrooms	\$746	\$769	\$789	\$720	\$803
3 Bedrooms	\$1,062	\$1,094	\$1,123	\$1,025	\$1,171
4 Bedrooms	\$1,094	\$1,127	\$1,157	\$1,056	\$1,318

Definition: Fair market rents are gross rent estimates that include the cost of rent and all utilities except telephone service. The current definition used for most areas is the 40th percentile rent, the dollar amount below which 40% of the standard quality rental housing units are rented.

Data Source: [As cited on kidsdata.org](http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/fmr.html). U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Fair Market Rent. Accessed at: <http://www.huduser.org/portal/datasets/fmr.html> (Nov. 2013).

While Siskiyou County has seen an overall decrease in family income, housing prices are steadily rising. As reflected in the tables above and below, lower income and higher housing costs are attributing to the increase in children living in poverty.

Children in Poverty (Regions of 20,000 Residents or more) Siskiyou County	
2010-2012	2009-2011
30.9%	27.2%

Definition: Estimated percentage of children ages 0-17 living in families with incomes below the Federal Poverty Level, which was \$23,283 for a family of two adults and two children in 2012.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey. Accessed at <http://factfinder2.census.gov> (Dec. 2013).

Nearly one third of children in Siskiyou County live in poverty. The stress caused by living in poverty contributes to domestic violence and child abuse. Nearly half of the children in Siskiyou County are eligible for the Free or Reduced Price Meal Program. Teachers report being worried about children leaving school on Friday and not having food over the weekend. Concern is also expressed by callers to Child Protective Services that children will not be fed over the summer vacation, since the need for breakfast and lunches at school is so pervasive. Social Workers report that children taken into protective custody and placed in foster care will eat until they are sick, hoard food to eat later, and find it hard to adjust having food readily available. When a Social Worker takes a teen out to lunch to talk about how things are going at home, he/she often carefully saves half of his/her meal for later.

Student Eligibility to receive Free or Reduced Price Meal Program					
	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Siskiyou	3,790	3,682	3,784	3,421	3,376
California	3,294,807	3,434,256	3,465,446	3,472,481	3,509,407

Definition: Number of public school students eligible to receive free or reduced price meals. A child's family income must fall below 130% of the federal poverty guidelines (\$29,965 for a family of four in 2012-2013) to qualify for free meals, or below 185% of the federal poverty guidelines (\$42,643 for a family of four in 2012-2013) to qualify for reduced-cost meals.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Dept. of Education, Free/Reduced Price Meals Program & CalWORKS Data Files (Feb. 2014); U.S. Dept. of Education, NCES Digest of Education Statistics (Feb. 2014).

Unemployment Rate (Percentage)					
	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Siskiyou	10.1%	14.5%	16.6%	16.5%	15.3%
California	7.2%	11.3%	12.4%	11.8%	10.5%

Definition: Percentage of unemployed persons in the total labor force ages 16 and older.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Employment Development Dept. Accessed online at <http://www.labormarketinfo.edd.ca.gov/Content.asp?pageid=1006> (June 2013); U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, *Labor Force Statistics including the National Unemployment Rate*. Accessed online at <http://www.bls.gov/data/#unemployment> (June 2013).

While the unemployment rate in Siskiyou County has gone down over the past two years, it is still significantly higher than the state average. The major employer in the County is government; there are few private employers and it is not easy to find work. Gasoline prices are high, as are housing and food prices. Unemployment, leading to poverty, remains a stressor in Siskiyou County that contributes to child abuse.

Siskiyou County Health Insurance Coverage (2010-2012)

Age Group	Insured	Uninsured
Ages 0-5	92.9%	7.1%
Ages 6-17	91.2%	8.8%
Ages 0-17	91.8%	8.2%

Definition: Estimated percentage of children under age 18 with health insurance coverage, by type of insurance and age group. For example, in 2010-12, 37% of California children ages 6-17 were covered by public health insurance.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, U.S. Census Bureau, American Community Survey (Dec. 2013).

Health insurance coverage for youth is not a problem in Siskiyou County. Over 90% of youth have their health needs covered by insurance, either by private insurance carriers through their parents' employers or through Medi-Cal. While it may be difficult for families to access medical and dental care due to lack of providers and distance to providers, insurance does not seem to be an impediment to accessing health care.

Siskiyou County Kindergarteners with All Required Immunizations

2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
371	384	403	391	414

Definition: Number of children in kindergarten with all required immunizations.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Department of Public Health, Immunization Branch, Kindergarten Assessment Results (Oct. 2013).

The number of kindergartners with all required immunizations has steadily increased over the past five years, with a slight decrease in 2012 and to an all time high in 2013.

B. CHILD MALTREATMENT INDICATORS

Siskiyou County Infants born at Low Birthweight

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
8.4%	5.0%	7.4%	7.0%	7.6%

Definition: Percentage of infants born at low birthweight (less than 2,500 grams or about 5 lbs, 8 oz).

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org California Dept. of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Birth Statistical Master Files; Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Natality data on CDC WONDER; Martin, et al. (2013), Births: Final Data for 2012. National Vital Statistics Reports, 62(9) (Mar. 2014).

Teen Births

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Siskiyou	62	55	50	41	46
California	51,704	47,811	43,127	38,328	34,921

Definition: Number of births to young women ages 15-19.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Dept. of Finance, Race/Ethnic Population with Age and Sex Detail, 1990-1999, 2000-2010, 2010-2060; California Dept. of Public Health, Center for Health Statistics, Birth Statistical Master Files; Centers for Disease Control & Prevention, Natality data on CDC WONDER; Martin et al. (2013), Births: Final Data for 2012. National Vital Statistics Reports, 62(9) (Mar. 2014).

Family Structure for Children in Households, by City, School District and County (20,000 Residents or More)		
2009-2011		
Household Type	Siskiyou County	California
Female-Headed Household	15.4%	18.8%
Male-Headed Household	LNE	4.8%
Married Couple (Opposite Sex)	LNE	67.9%
Unmarried Couple (Opposite Sex)	9.9%	8.0%
Unmarried or Married Same-Sex Couple	LNE	0.3%
Grandparent	8.8%	3.4%
Other Households	0.8%	0.3%

Definition: Estimated percentage of children under age 18 in households, by household type.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, Population Reference Bureau analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey microdata files (Jan. 2013).

Footnote: Estimates are for children living in households and exclude those in group quarters (e.g., student dormitories). The same-sex couple category combines both unmarried and married partners due to small sample sizes. "Other households" include youth living alone or with nonrelatives. Data are displayed for geographies with at least 20,000 people based on 2011 population estimates. These estimates are based on a survey of the population and are subject to both sampling and nonsampling error. LNE (Low Number Event) refers to estimates that have been suppressed because the margin of error was greater than 5 percentage points. N/A means that data are not available.

As reflected in the previous three tables, from 2011 to 2012 low birth rate and teen pregnancy has increased in Siskiyou County. This correlates to the largest family structure, of single females, in Siskiyou County. Teens do not always obtain the prenatal care that is needed and as a result infants can be born with health problems, including low birth weight. Comparatively, teen births have decreased overall in California. The rise in teen births in Siskiyou County may be attributed to the lack of recreational activities that would keep teens engaged in the community and less apt to become pregnant and/or parenting teens. Furthermore, as the data in the next three tables show, teens in Siskiyou County are using substances more than other teens in the rest of the State. This is another contributor to the increase in teen pregnancies and low birth weight. Overall, the family structure in Siskiyou County aligns with the family structure in California. With the exception that Siskiyou County does not reflect single male households, married opposite sex households and unmarried/married same sex couples. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, these populations were unreported as the margin of error was too great.

The County recognizes that there are transient individuals in Siskiyou County. However, due to the large geographic area of the County, and the fact that there is no one area where homeless individuals gather, the County is unable to gather this data. This information is not readily available through other data sources.

Depression-Related Feelings, by Gender and Grade Level in 2008-2010								
Grade Level	Female				Male			
	Yes		No		Yes		No	
	Siskiyou	California	Siskiyou	California	Siskiyou	California	Siskiyou	California
7th Grade	31.0%	30.8%	69.0%	69.2%	25.5%	24.7%	74.5%	75.3%
9 th Grade	37.3%	36.4%	62.7%	63.6%	28.5%	24.2%	71.5%	75.8%
11 th Grade	41.7%	37.2%	58.3%	62.8%	24.0%	26.5%	71.8%	73.5%
Non-Traditional	45.1%	47.0%	54.9%	53.0%	28.2%	29.4%	71.8%	70.6%

Definition: Percentage of students in grades 7, 9, and 11, and non-traditional students, reporting whether in the past 12 months, they had felt so sad or hopeless almost every day for two weeks or more that they stopped doing some usual activities, by gender. The grade levels included in school district-level data depend on the grades offered in each school district; for example, high school districts do not include 7th grade data. "Non-traditional" students are those enrolled in Community Day Schools or Continuation Education.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Department of Education, California Healthy Kids Survey (WestEd). <http://www.wested.org/chks>

Depression-related feelings in Siskiyou County correlate with depression-related feelings in the rest of the state. There does not appear to be a significantly higher level of depression in Siskiyou County youth, although more females reported being depressed in both Siskiyou and throughout the state than did males.

Alcohol Use (Lifetime), by Gender and Grade Level in 2008-2010 (Percentage)																
Grade Level	Female								Male							
	0 Times		1 Time		2-3 Times		4 or More Times		0 Times		1 Time		2-3 Times		4 or More Times	
	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA
7th Grade	82.6	76.9	8.9	8.4	5.0	7.0	4.0	8.0	71.5	75.9	15.5	9.0	6.0	7.0	7.0	8.0
9 th Grade	49.2	52.9	10.7	9.0	13.0	12.0	28.0	26.0	23.1	55.9	14.5	9.3	13.0	11.0	20.0	24.0
11 th Grade	19.6	37.6	10.4	7.4	16.0	12.0	54.0	43.0	26.7	39.3	5.1	7.41	13.0	11.0	55.0	43.0
Non-Traditional	11.1	17.2	5.0	4.9	9.0	10.0	75.0	68.0	26.6	20.2	0.0	6.0	9.0	10.0	64.0	64.0

Definition: Percentage of public school students in grades 7, 9, and 11 reporting the number of times they ever have had one or more full drinks of alcohol, by gender. The grade levels included in school district-level data depend on the grades offered in each school district; for example, high school districts do not include 7th grade data. "Non-Traditional" students are those enrolled in Community Day Schools or Continuation Education. According to EdSource, nearly 10% of public school students in California are enrolled in these programs.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Department of Education, California Healthy Kids Survey (WestEd). <http://www.wested.org/chks>

Cigarette Use (Lifetime), by Gender and Grade Level in 2008-2010 (Percentage)																
Grade Level	Female								Male							
	0 Times		1 Time		2-3 Times		4 or More Times		0 Times		1 Time		2-3 Times		4 or More Times	
	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA
7th Grade	95.2	94.0	1.8	2.0	3.0	2.0	1.0	3.0	91.6	92.0	4.0	2.6	1.0	2.0	4.0	3.0
9 th Grade	76.5	81.5	6.5	5.7	4.0	5.0	13.0	8.0	79.2	77.9	9.5	6.1	5.0	5.0	7.0	11.0
11 th Grade	63.5	74.1	7.6	5.7	11.0	6.0	18.0	15.0	65.2	68.5	9.3	6.2	8.0	6.0	18.0	19.0
Non-Traditional	19.8	43.1	10.5	8.2	4.0	10.0	66.0	39.0	34.2	36.9	1.9	7.7	8.0	10.0	56.0	45.0

Definition: Percentage of public school students in grades 7, 9, and 11 reporting the number of times they ever have smoked a whole cigarette, by gender. The grade levels included in school district-level data depend on the grades offered in each school district; for example, high school districts do not include 7th grade data. "Non-Traditional" students are those enrolled in Community Day Schools or Continuation Education. According to EdSource, nearly 10% of public school students in California are enrolled in these programs.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Department of Education, California Healthy Kids Survey (WestEd). <http://www.wested.org/chks>

Marijuana Use (Lifetime), by Gender and Grade Level in 2008-2010 (Percentage)																
Grade Level	Female								Male							
	0 Times		1 Time		2-3 Times		4 or More Times		0 Times		1 Time		2-3 Times		4 or More Times	
	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA	Siskiyou	CA
7th Grade	95.1	91.3	1.8	3.0	1.0	2.0	2.0	4.0	92.9	88.3	2.7	3.6	1.0	3.0	3.0	5.0
9th Grade	71.7	75.4	6.5	5.3	5.0	5.0	17.0	14.0	72.4	71.3	6.3	5.2	5.0	5.0	16.0	18.0
11th Grade	54.5	64.4	2.3	5.8	13.0	7.0	30.0	23.0	50.3	58.2	6.6	5.4	9.0	6.0	34.0	30.0
Non-Traditional	11.1	27.9	1.3	5.9	5.0	9.0	83.0	58.0	28.1	26.9	2.0	5.7	6.0	7.0	64.0	60.0

Definition: Percentage of public school students in grades 7, 9, and 11 reporting the number of times they ever have used marijuana, by gender. The grade levels included in school district-level data depend on the grades offered in each school district; for example, high school districts do not include 7th grade data. "Non-Traditional" students are those enrolled in Community Day Schools or Continuation Education. According to EdSource, nearly 10% of public school students in California are enrolled in these programs.

Data Source: As cited on kidsdata.org, California Department of Education, California Healthy Kids Survey (WestEd). <http://www.wested.org/chks>

As reflected in the previous three tables, on average, the youth in Siskiyou County are using alcohol, cigarettes and marijuana more than the youth in the rest of the state. Youth are looking for social acceptance by both peers and family members. Siskiyou County is experiencing an overall increase in marijuana use and more youth are being taken into care as a result of substance abusing parents. Children are born exposed to methamphetamine and marijuana. As these children grow and mature, they observe the adults in their life using and this becomes normal social behavior that the youth identifies with.

Domestic Violence Related Calls for Assistance, 2010								
Siskiyou County								
	Total Calls			Type of Weapon (Penal Code section 13730 does not require that the type of weapon involved in a domestic violence-related call be reported)				
	Total	No Weapon involved or reported	Weapon involved	Total	Firearm	Knife or cutting instrument	Other Dangerous Weapon	Personal Weapon (Hands, feet, etc)
Total	265	229	36	36	1	5	6	24
Sheriff's Department	122	106	16	16	1	5	3	7
Unincorporated	84	72	12	12	1	3	2	6
Dorris	4	4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Dunsmuir	15	15	0	0	0	0	0	0
Etna	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	0
Fort Jones	6	6	0	0	0	0	0	0
Montague	6	4	2	2	0	2	0	0
Tulelake	4	2	2	2	0	0	1	1
Lake Shastina	2	0	2	2	0	0	0	2
Mount Shasta	7	0	7	7	0	0	0	7
Weed	26	24	2	2	0	0	0	2
Yreka	108	99	9	9	0	0	3	6

Definition: Total number of calls related to domestic violence received by law enforcement in Siskiyou County.

Data Source: As cited on Office of the Attorney General, State of California Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General, Table 14 Domestic Violence –Related Calls for Assistance by Type of Call and Weapon. Retrieved 5/23/14 <http://oag.ca.gov/crime/cjse-stats/2010/table14>

Relative to the population, the reported incidents of domestic violence appear small. However, it may be that people are more reluctant to report incidences of domestic violence than they are child abuse. While there is an active Siskiyou Domestic Violence and Crisis Center (SDVCC) for female victims of violence and their children under 12, many incidents go unreported, due to the victim's fear of repercussions. While SDVCC can provide a safe haven during a temporary cooling down period, options for permanent safety for victims are often limited by financial situations, lack of housing, and fear of being unable to survive on their

own. The SDVCC program also provides assistance with the application for restraining orders and support during court appearances; but it is only a temporary solution to a deep seated problem. The cycle of violence presents very real threats to the families in Siskiyou County.

C. CHILD WELFARE AND PROBATION POPULATION DATA

1. CHILD WELFARE DATA

Siskiyou Child Population (0-17)									
Children with Child Maltreatment Allegations, Substantiations, and Entries Incidence per 1,000 Children									
Age Group	Total Child Population	Children with Allegations	Incidence per 1,000 Children	Children with Substantiations	Incidence per 1,000 Children	% of Allegations	Children with Entries	Incidence per 1,000 Children	% of Substantiations
Under 1	414	66	159.5	37	89.4	56.1	24	58	64.9
1-2	872	73	83.7	24	27.5	32.9	13	14.9	54.2
3-5	1,465	113	77.1	37	25.3	32.7	20	13.7	54.1
6-10	2,516	165	65.6	34	13.5	20.6	18	7.2	52.9
11-15	2,457	129	52.5	30	12.2	23.3	16	6.5	53.3
16-17	1,031	36	34.9	6	5.8	16.7	4	3.9	66.7
Total	8,755	582	66.5	168	19.2	28.9	95	10.9	56.5

Definition: Rates are based on unduplicated counts of children--at county level--with allegations, substantiations, and entering care during the time period stratified by age.

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2014 Quarter 1 Extract.

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 4/29/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssf.berkeley.edu/uch_childwelfare

While there are fewer children, under 1, in proportion to the population of children in Siskiyou County, the percentage of substantiation allegations is higher. This is consistent with the vulnerability of infants and the willingness of people to report abuse to the youngest members of society. Local hospitals drug test every newborn, and report positive findings to Child Welfare for follow-up. While the 16-17 year old age group has a higher percentage of substantiated allegations, this category only contains 6 youth. Since the last CSA, the number of allegations and substantiated allegations has decreased. In the previous CSA, Siskiyou County had an overall allegation rate of 902 and of these allegations 301 were substantiated. Children under 1 and late teens remain the highest percentage of substantiated allegations. Compared to California, Siskiyou County has slightly higher substantiation rates in all age groups. This will be discussed in more detail in Siskiyou County’s analysis of the Outcome Data Measures.

Siskiyou Child Population (0-17)									
Children with Child Maltreatment Allegations, Substantiations, and Entries Incidence per 1,000 Children									
Ethnic Group	Total Child Population	Children with Allegations	Incidence per 1,000 Children	Children with Substantiations	Incidence per 1,000 Children	% of Allegations	Children with Entries	Incidence per 1,000 Children	% of Substantiations
Black	95	23	242.3	6	63.2	26.1	4	42.1	66.7
Caucasian	5,716	429	75	130	22.7	30.3	76	13.3	58.5
Latino	1,685	60	35.6	14	8.3	23.3	5	3	35.7
Asian/P.I.	101	3	29.7	0	0	0	0	0	
Native American	404	67	165.8	18	44.5	26.9	10	24.7	55.6
Multi-Race	753	0	0	0	0		0	0	
Missing	0	224		33		14.7	1		3
Total	8,755	806	92.1	201	23	24.9	96	11	47.8

Definition: Rates are based on unduplicated counts of children--at county level--with allegations, substantiations, and entering care during the time period stratified by ethnicity.

Data Source: CWS/CMS 2014 Quarter 1 Extract.

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 4/29/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

While the percentage of substantiations for the Black population during the first quarter of 2014 appears high at 66.7%, this reflects only six children, with four children entering care. Siskiyou County is predominately Caucasian and the highest number of children with substantiated allegations correlates with the highest total child population. While the number of substantiated allegations appears higher for Black, Native American and Latino children, the actual numbers of children with substantiated allegations in these categories is actually consistent with the total child population.

From 2011 to the current data set the number of allegations in each ethnic group has steadily increased. However, the substantiation rate has remained consistent. People move to Siskiyou County, in many cases, to avoid large cities, high crime rate; crowded living conditions and tend to want to take care of their own problems in their communities. Particularly in communities with Family/Community Resource Centers, people look out for children and step in to help when they see a family in need. Child Welfare receives many referrals of child abuse from community members, who remain concerned about the safety of children. The rural nature of Siskiyou County lends itself to a strong sense of community partnership and pooling of resources. While many people express reluctance to take help from the government, they help each other out when possible. People reported suspected child abuse at a higher rate than the substantiations and removals indicated in proportion to the child population.

Siskiyou Children with one or more Allegations for Jan 1, 2013 to Dec 31, 2013						
Allegation Type	Disposition Type					Total
	Substantiated	Inconclusive	Unfounded	Assessment Only/Evaluated Out	Not Yet Determined	
	n	n	n	n	n	
Sexual Abuse	7	9	6	24	0	46
Physical Abuse	6	18	20	20	0	64
Severe Neglect	3	0	0	0	0	3
General Neglect	175	186	202	68	0	631
Exploitation	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emotional Abuse	3	19	5	14	0	41
Caretaker Absence/Incapacity	7	7	2	2	0	18
At Risk, Sibling Abused	0	3	0	0	0	3
Substantial Risk	0	0	0	0	0	0
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	201	242	235	128	0	806

Definition: The number of allegation types for clients in referrals started during the selected month. Clients may have multiple allegation types on any given referral.

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 4/29/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssf.berkeley.edu/uch_childwelfare

General Neglect makes up, by far, the largest category of allegations reported to Child Welfare Services, followed by Physical Abuse and Sexual Abuse. This configuration has been consistent in Siskiyou County for the past several County Self-Assessments. Less than a third of the allegations of General Neglect were substantiated. The community reports concerns for children who appear to be lacking food, proper clothing and hygiene, or who may be without supervision at a higher rate than were found to meet the requirements for substantiation. Child Welfare Services regularly provides community presentations on mandated reporting, which may increase the number of referrals. Poverty, mental illness, substance abuse and domestic violence contribute to the neglect and abuse of children. Isolation, lack of resources and difficulty in obtaining transportation to services factor in to neglect and can escalate a stressful situation to physical abuse, which reflects in the higher number of allegations of General Neglect and Physical Abuse. Siskiyou County's data has remained consistent from 2011 to the current data set, with General Neglect being the highest allegation type. The number of General Neglect allegations has steadily increased over time, while all other allegations have shown a declining trend. Comparatively, overall California has shown an upward trend in all allegation types.

Siskiyou County Child Welfare Caseload by Service Component Type January 2014								
Service Component Type	Age Group							Total
	Under 1	1-2	3-5	6-10	11-15	16-17	18-20	
	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	
Emergency Response	0	2	0	0	2	0	0	4
Pre-Placement (FM)	4	2	3	3	2	0	0	14
Post-Placement (FM)	0	5	3	4	0	0	0	12
Family Reunification	7	8	13	13	10	3	0	54
Permanent Placement	5	8	9	5	17	10	1	55
Supportive Transition	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Missing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	16	25	28	25	31	13	2	140

Definition: Primary assignments broken down by service component.

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 4/29/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/zuch_childwelfare

The high number of reunification cases, as reflected in the table above, speaks to the importance that is placed by the County on providing services to families enabling them to safely reunify. When Reunification Services are not successful, the cases move into the Permanent Placement component. Non-dependent, non-related legal guardianships are included in the Permanent Placement numbers; this caseload generally runs around 15. The Permanent Placement caseload also contains children who are awaiting finalization of adoption and will be exiting care. In recent years, Child Welfare has made major efforts to work with families to avoid removal of children, to place children back with their parents as soon as a safety plan can be put into place, and to reunify as soon as possible. This prevents children remaining in ongoing foster care; permanency for every youth is a goal that is foremost in the minds of social workers. From January 2010 to January 2014, the caseload sizes have remained relatively the same, with only slight changes (of no more than nine cases) in a service component.

2. PROBATION DATA

Siskiyou County Probation Population January 2014				
Ethnicity	Age Group			Total
	11-15	16-17	18-20	
	n	n	n	
Black	1	0	0	1
Caucasian	3	6	1	10
Native American	0	1	0	1
Latino	0	6	0	6
Asian/P.I.	0	0	0	0
Multi-Race	0	1	0	1
Total	4	14	1	19

Data Source: Probation Knowledge Center: Corrections Software Solutions. Retrieved 5/29/2014

Number of first entries with a suitable placement order		
Total Number of entries	Age	Ethnicity
1	17	Native American/Hispanic

Data Source: Probation Knowledge Center: Corrections Software Solutions, Retrieved 5/29/2014

Number of subsequent entries to Probation January 2014				
Ethnicity	Age Group			Total
	11-15	16-17	18-20	
	n	n	n	
Black	0	0	0	0
Caucasian	2	4	0	6
Native American	0	1	0	1
Latino	0	4	0	4
Asian/P.I.	0	0	0	0
Multi-Race	0	0	0	0
Total	2	9	0	11

Data Source: Probation Knowledge Center: Corrections Software Solutions, Retrieved 5/29/2014

Siskiyou County Probation Caseload by Service Component Type January 2014				
Service Component Type	Age Group			Total
	11-15	16-17	18-20	
	n	n	n	
Family Reunification	3	5	0	8
Permanent Placement	1	9	1	11
Total	4	12	1	19

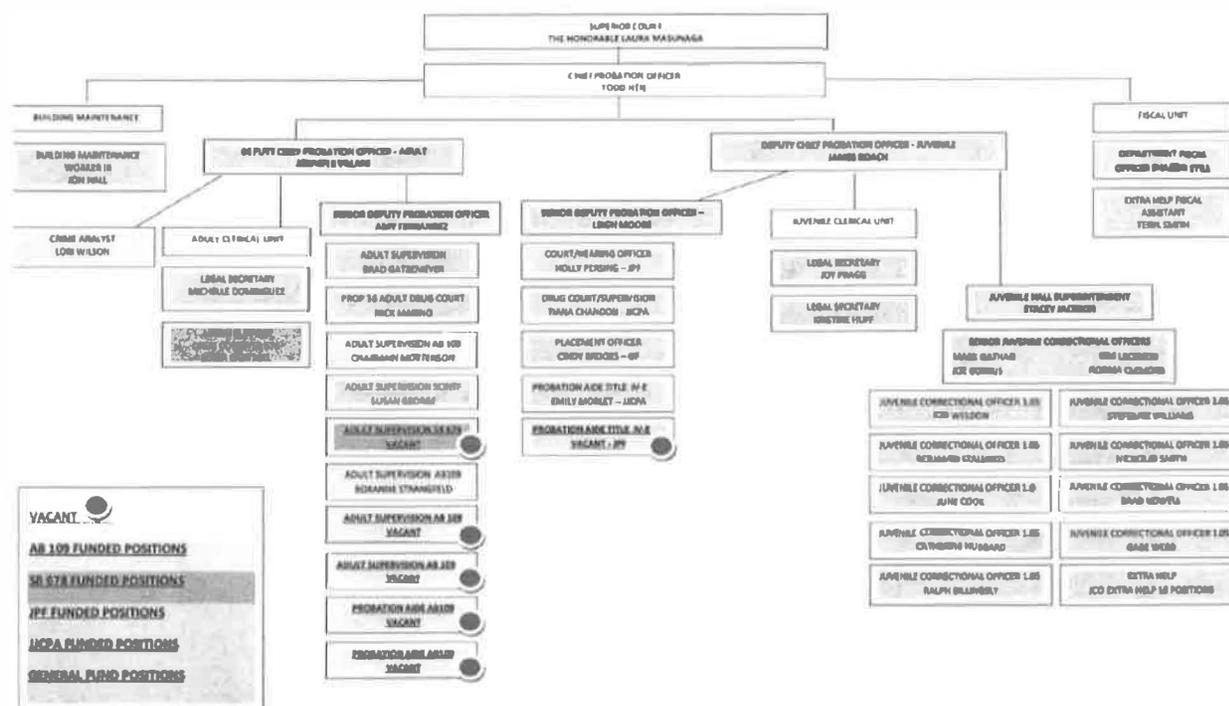
Data Source: Probation Knowledge Center: Corrections Software Solutions, Retrieved 5/29/2014

ICWA and MEPA Eligible Probation Population				
Ethnicity	Age Group			Total
	11-15	16-17	18-20	
	n	n	n	
Native American	0	1	0	1
Multi-Race	0	1	0	1
Total	0	2	0	2

Data Source: Probation Knowledge Center: Corrections Software Solutions, Retrieved 5/29/2014

Since the last CSA, Siskiyou County's juvenile probation population decreased to 19 youth in placement at the beginning of 2013. Ethnicity data reflects proportional handling when placing youth with the exception of Latino youth. The Juvenile Deputy Chief and the Placement Probation Officer have received training that focused on enhanced efforts in family findings for all youth, with an emphasis on statistics which identified disproportional placement of Black and Native-American youth in California overall. Probation diverted

Probation Department Organizational Chart



A. POLITICAL JURISDICTIONS

The Board of Supervisors provides leadership and financial oversight for the activities of County Departments. Since the last CSA, the Human Services Agency (created by the merger of the Behavioral Health Department and the Human Services Department) has combined with the Public Health Department, creating the Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA). Behavioral Health clinical staff and Adult & Children’s Services staff are now co-located in the same building. This enables close collaboration between clinical staff and social workers.

The County Office of Education provides a foster care liaison who works with children (and their families) who have special educational needs. This liaison is also an integral part of the County’s Independent Living Skills Program (ILP), providing information and guidance to youth to prepare them for life after foster care. The County Office of Education also provides administrative staff and a school psychologist for the weekly Assessment Review Team (ART) that meets in the HHSA building.

The Karuk Tribe and Quartz Valley Rancheria social workers work with Child Welfare social workers to staff cases involving Tribal children to ensure compliance with the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA). The Karuk Tribe has a Children’s Court and an IV-E agreement with the State of California.

Law enforcement agencies call upon Child Welfare social workers when they have placed children into protective custody, to jointly investigate cases and to conduct forensic interviews - in a specially designed room at the HHSA building. Interviews can be viewed through two-way glass and recorded, thus potentially preventing the need for a child victim to testify in Court. Child Welfare partners with the Siskiyou County-wide Narcotics Task Force (SCINTF) and responds to homes when requested by the

SCINTF to take custody of children who have been exposed to drug manufacturing and/or sales and remove them to safety.

Public Health is now a division of the Health and Human Services Agency. Public Health staff serve on various committees with Child Welfare staff such as the Siskiyou Early Childhood Team (SECT) and provide consultation and support through California Children's Services (CCS).

B. COUNTY CHILD WELFARE AND PROBATION INFRASTRUCTURE

1. Child Welfare

Child Welfare is comprised of two units: Court/Placement/Independent Living Program and Emergency Response/Voluntary Family Maintenance. Support staff include a nurse case assistant, legal secretary, foster care eligibility worker and a staff services analyst. The Court unit consists of seven social workers; one worker has a specialized caseload of detention to disposition cases. The emergency response (ER) unit consists of four social workers who respond to community referrals and one social worker dedicated to screening incoming calls. The screening position is the first contact many people have with the Agency, when reporting suspected child abuse.

Community members can come in to the office to report suspected abuse or neglect, send in a Suspected Child Abuse Report (SCAR) or make a report over the phone. It is extremely important that adequate information is provided by callers/reporters, in order to determine if there is a need to dispatch a social worker immediately, within 10 days or to evaluate the referral out as not meeting the requirements for assignment. The emergency response workers write the Petition and Detention Reports. The reports are reviewed by the ER supervisor and County Counsel.

After the Detention Hearing, the case is moved from the emergency response worker to the detention to disposition worker, who arranges services and writes the Jurisdiction and Disposition reports. Based on the complexity of the case and social worker caseload numbers, the case is transferred to an ongoing court worker after the Disposition hearing. Consideration is given to the complexity of the case and where the child is placed (either in county or out of county). Social workers travel to visit youth once a month in their homes and it is efficient for the same social worker to have cases in designated geographic areas, when possible. Independent Living Skills services are provided to age-appropriate youth by a court social worker and the foster care liaison. Services include holding monthly meetings on a variety of skill building topics and individual work with youth according to their needs.

For the period of January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013, the monthly average number of open cases in the Court unit was 100. These cases were distributed among social workers within the Court unit based on complexity and individual social worker experience. The number of cases per social worker ranged from eight to thirty with the average being twenty-two cases. For the period of January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013, 672 Suspected Child Abuse referrals were received and 183 were evaluated out. The average number of monthly referrals received by the Emergency Response unit was 56. The number of referrals per social worker ranged from 14 to 1 with the average being 7.

As of April 30, 2014, there are 21 open Family Maintenance cases, 36 open Family Reunification cases, 73 Permanent Placement cases (of which 15 are guardianship cases) and two Non-Minor Dependent cases in Supportive Transition. There were no Voluntary Family Maintenance cases at

this time. Supervisor to worker ratio is one to seven in the Court unit and one to six (5 social workers and 1 nurse case assistant) in the Emergency Response Unit.

The county just entered into a two year Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Organized Employees of Siskiyou County (OESC) and the Social Workers have indicated dissatisfaction that several of their issues were not addressed by the organization to their satisfaction. Behavioral Health staff were afforded four hours of “recovery time” when they are out on a crisis call at night and have to work at 8:00 a.m. the next morning. Child Welfare staff also work under these conditions, but could not engage the OESC to develop a side letter to allow social workers the same recovery time.

Staff are also concerned with crowded working conditions, high expectations social workers have a number of duties beyond investigating referrals and writing court reports, such as observing drug tests, monitoring visitations, and traveling long distances to visit children in placements. Combined with the loss of Cost of Living increases in the previous MOU, more work expected for less money is a concern heard frequently.

Demographic information on current staff in Child Welfare Services includes: a Social Worker IV with a Master of Social Work degree and two years placement experience; a Social Worker III with a Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Leadership and seven years placement experience; a Social Worker III with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and fifteen years placement experience; a Social Worker II with a Bachelor of Science in Social Work and six years placement experience; a Social Worker II with a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture Business and two years experience working with families; a Social Worker II with some college units and eight years placement experience; a Social Worker II with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and six years of placement experience; a Social Worker I with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology one and half years placement experience a Social Worker I who is within a few classes of graduating with a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice and less than a year’s experience. One supervisor has a Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice with twelve years of placement experience and one supervisor has one hundred college units and thirteen years placement experience. The Program Manager has a Master of Social Work and twenty-four years experience with Child Welfare Services.

One child welfare social worker is an elder with the Karuk Tribe of California, all other staff are Caucasian. Two bilingual staff who can assist with interviews of Spanish speaking clients; one works in Child Welfare and one in Adult Services.

2. Probation

The Siskiyou County Probation Department’s Juvenile Probation Unit and the Charlie Byrd Youth Corrections Center (CBYCC / Juvenile Hall) operate under the direction of Chief Probation Officer Todd Heie. A Deputy Chief Probation Officer (DCPO) acts as the unit supervisor and manages one Senior Deputy Probation Officer (SrDPO), three Deputy Probation Officer II (DPO II) positions, two Probation Aides (PA), and two Legal Secretaries. In addition, the CBYCC Superintendent reports to the DCPO. The juvenile probation unit works in concert with the CBYCC Juvenile Corrections Officers (JCOs) in facilitating programs in juvenile hall that support the placement case plans. In addition, a Data Analyst is assigned to work 10 hours a week with the juvenile probation unit.

All cases ordered into placement by the court and After 18 Program Non-Minor Dependents (NMDs) are assigned to the primary Placement DPO II. For quality assurance, a PA position is assigned to assist the Placement DPO II with family findings, concurrent case planning, ensuring case plan compliance, contacting youth via telephone in placement on a weekly or daily basis during initial transition to a new placement or during crisis, facilitating reports and reviews, and coordinating family contacts via Skype to support reunification efforts. One Legal Secretary and the Placement DPO II are trained in the Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS) and make the appropriate entries.

The average placement/NMD caseload size has varied from over twenty placement cases (pre-NMD) in 2012 to a current number of seven placement cases and eight NMD cases (three in Opt-Out status). Department re-organization occurred in 2012 when the then Juvenile Division Director (and department placement unit expert) resigned in October 2012, followed by the then Assistant Chief, in November, 2012. The former Assistant Chief position was then eliminated and the Division Director position was elevated to Deputy Chief. To help alleviate the loss of a management position, one of the DPO II line positions was elevated to a line Senior DPO position and two Probation Aide (PA) positions were added. The new Deputy Chief did not have juvenile placement unit experience, and the loss of an experienced Division Director and Assistant Chief impacted the supervision of the entry of data into the CMS/CWS system, and thus Outcome Data Measures were not as accurate as they should have been. This has since been corrected with diligent tracking of data input and compliance through CWS/CMS Safe Measures.

In addition to losing experienced management staff in 2012, the department had difficulty filling the PA positions, and the original PA who assisted the Placement DPO II, was promoted to DPO and moved to the Adult Probation Unit. By July of 2013, the juvenile unit was finally fully staffed, but then the unit experienced the retirement of an experienced DPO II and medical leave of the Placement DPO II in September, 2013. Due to having another experienced Placement DPO II able to take over for the DPO II on medical leave, and the assistance of a PA, the unit was able to continue to focus on quality placement case management. The Adult unit also provided one DPO II to assist the Juvenile Unit, but the unit remained down one officer until the primary Placement Officer returned in February, 2014. As of March, 2014, the Juvenile Unit lost a PA to another County Department and in June will lose the assistance of the DPO II from the Adult Unit.

The Juvenile Unit Deputy Chief's inexperience with CWS/CMS system and miscommunication with the Placement DPO II and Legal Secretary contributed to some CWS/CMS data entry issues that resulted in supervisory approval of placement close out dates being delayed or inaccurate. This has since been corrected. There are no bargaining unit issues anticipated and none that have impacted county practice, service delivery, or Outcome Data measures.

Staff are recruited and selected by Job Announcement and the creation of an Eligibility List with a scheduled written test date and interview date. A DPO I requires knowledge of: The principles and practices of probation work; Principles of social and correctional case and group work; Laws relating to criminal justice; Causes of crime and delinquency; Individual and group counseling techniques; Interviewing techniques; Community resources available to probationers; Principles of investigation and laws governing search and seizure and preservation of evidence; Codes, standards, and regulations governing care and treatment of juveniles in juvenile halls, camps, ranches, or schools; Crisis intervention, self-defense, arrest procedures, appropriate use of force and security techniques, rights and liabilities of peace officer.

Candidates need the ability to: Analyze behavior patterns; Exercise sound judgment in assessment and treatment of probationers; Establish and maintain effective working relationships with others; Read, write, and speak English at a level necessary for satisfactory job performance; Cope with hostility and aggressive behavior; Prepare concise and clear reports; Maintain records; Communicate with individuals from a variety of socio-economic backgrounds; Drive an automobile to transport adults and juveniles, Effectively represent the Probation Department in contacts with the public, other county staff and other law enforcement agencies; Establish and maintain cooperative working relationship. Candidates must meet the minimum education and experience requirements of a Bachelor's degree in a related behavioral science field; or an Associate's degree or 60 semester units of academic coursework plus two (2) years of experience in a related field of work; or one year of full-time paid professional probation work.

The Probation Aide position requires knowledge of basic human behavior, basic knowledge of the criminal justice structure and system, individual and group counseling techniques, crisis intervention, interviewing techniques and knowledge of community resources available to probationers. Requirements include one to two years of previous experience in working with juveniles and adults in a Probation, law enforcement/Social Services or like field, which included substantial public contact, or six (6) months of experience in a clerical/public service position which included exposure with court or probationers or a related field processes and completion of college coursework from an accredited college or University. An Associate's Degree from an accredited college in a related field is highly desirable.

The current Juvenile Unit DCPO has a Bachelor Degree in the Administration of Justice with a minor in Sociology; the current Juvenile Senior DPO has a Bachelor degree in Psychology; the current Juvenile Placement DPO II has a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice; and Juvenile Placement PA is working on a degree in Criminal Justice. The other Juvenile Unit DPO II has a Bachelor degree in Criminal Justice. The department Data Analyst has a Bachelor Degree in Anthropology and a Master's Degree in Biology (Microbiology).

The Juvenile Unit DCPO has attended Placement Supervisory training and Placement CORE training and has 18 months of supervisory experience over a placement unit. The current Juvenile Placement DPO II has approximately one year of placement experience. One other Juvenile Unit DPO II has completed Placement CORE training and has over 5 years of placement supervision experience.

C. FINANCIAL/ MATERIAL RESOURCES

Siskiyou County Child Abuse Prevention Council, Child Abuse Prevention Intervention and Treatment (CAPIT), Community Based Child Abuse Prevention (CBCAP) and County Children's Trust Fund (CCTF) funding helps support the Family/Community Resource Center (FRC/CRC) network, which offer child abuse prevention services throughout the county. CBCAP funds also support the Family Based Relapse Prevention programs through the FRC/CRC network.

CAPIT funding is currently used for a Differential Response Program provided through a contract with the Community Services Council. The Time Limited Reunification, Family Support, and Family Preservation portions of the Promoting Safe and Stable Families (PSSF) funds are used to provide mental health, drug and alcohol, and parenting services through the newly redesigned Reaching Health, Innovation, Responsibility,

Employment Ground (H.I.R.E.) Program. By blending CalWORKs funding and PSSF funding, Siskiyou County has been able to create a mental health/substance abuse program designed to meet the needs of both child welfare and CalWORKs clients. PSSF Adoption Support funds are used to provide training and support for adoptive parents through a contract with a community based organization.

Realigned CWS/OIP funds provide counseling services to youth in Juvenile Hall, through a sub-contract with HealTherapy. This is an equine therapy program that has been very successful in reaching Probation youth. In addition to Title IV-E claiming for placement case management services, the Probation Department utilizes therapists from HealTherapy, a community based organization, to facilitate family counseling to aid in reunification efforts. HealTherapy is partially funded through the Youth Offender Block Grant and allows therapists to work with families and youth who are in custody waiting for placement as well as providing transitional aftercare services. Due to work by HealTherapy staff with parents while the youth was at placement and in custody, there have been two successful reunifications with parents who previously had parental rights terminated.

D. CHILD WELFARE/PROBATION OPERATED SERVICES

1. Juvenile Hall

The Siskiyou County Probation Department operates the Charlie Byrd Youth Corrections Center (CBYCC), a juvenile hall facility with a rated capacity of 40 beds, of which 20 beds are currently funded and staffed. Youth awaiting placement have been assessed via the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT), a validated risk and needs assessment tool that identifies top criminogenic needs and weaknesses in protective factors. The PACT generates a corresponding case plan designed with the youth and identified family members to address the dynamic needs with agreed upon objectives and goals.

The Siskiyou County Office of Education operates the Siskiyou County Court School, also called the J. Everett Barr School (J.E.B.), which serves the students incarcerated at the CBYCC. The school provides a full educational program for elementary through high school aged students. General Equivalency Diploma (GED) testing is offered as well as on-line college course work. Resource Specialist support is provided for all students with an Individualized Education Plan (IEP).

Multiple evidence-based programs are offered, and all youth are required to attend, should time allow, while waiting for release to a placement. The programs include Anger Replacement Training (ART), Courage to Change journaling classes, Victim Offender Group, and Conflict Resolution Group. The CBYCC also offers Culinary Arts classes as well as Equine Therapy should the placement youth have an extended wait for release to placement. Therapists contracted by the Probation Department with Heal Therapy, a community based organization, are available to work with the youth and families on reunification efforts, individualized case plan goals, and crisis intervention.

2. County Operated Shelter

Siskiyou County does not operate a shelter for children needing emergency placement. If Child Welfare Social Workers need to place children on an emergency basis until relatives can be located and approved, they call a Foster Family Agency (FFA) for an available bed. The FFA pro-rates their monthly fee for two days (if a petition is filed) or less (if a relative is approved for placement or the situation stabilizes and the child can return home safely).

3. County Licensing

Siskiyou County currently has an MOU with the State to license foster homes, which was put into place in 2011. For the past three years, a social worker was designated to recruit foster parents and license foster homes. One foster home for special medical needs children, with a capacity for two placements, moved from being a State licensed home to being a County licensed home.

The licensing social worker made herculean efforts to license more homes; appearing at local events for children and the Siskiyou County Fair, making presentations to public service organizations, and facilitating public service radio announcements, all to no avail. With no funding to support this position and rising foster care costs, a recent re-organization of staff resulted in this position being moved to front-end child welfare services. The future of foster care licensing is currently in flux and will need to be reviewed further. With the proposed Resource Family Approval program being implemented statewide, it appears advantageous for Siskiyou County to retain the ability to license foster homes, in order to facilitate working with State Adoptions to perform one home study for adoptive and foster parents. However, at this time, the licensing responsibility must be carried by the program manager.

4. County Adoptions

Siskiyou County has a contract for services with State Adoptions and works closely with the Chico Regional Office. Adoptions specialists have regularly scheduled meetings with the Child Welfare Court unit supervisor and social workers to discuss referrals and work out issues. If a contested court hearing is calendared, a preparation meeting is held which includes county counsel, as well as the court supervisor, social worker and the adoptions specialist on the case. An adoptions specialist attends the regular law and motion court calendar every week (when there is a case on calendar that involves State Adoptions) in order to answer questions and provide information to the Court with all attorneys present.

E. OTHER COUNTY PROGRAMS

The Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is a super agency consisting of several Divisions; Social Services, Behavioral Health, Public Health, Administration Services, and the Office of Emergency Services. As such the various divisions are better able to coordinate services in a streamlined approach to ensure that the needs of the community and at risk population are met.

1. CalWORKs – Linkages

The Health and Human Services Agency has a social worker position within the Employment and Temporary Assistance Services (ETAS) Program assigned to the Linkages caseload. The ETAS Linkages social worker coordinates closely with Child Welfare social workers and clients to assist the client to remove barriers to employment and to assist parents in complying with their Court Ordered Service Plans. This collaborative working relationship provides a simple process for parents who are eligible for CalWORKs, where there is one coordinated service plan for them to follow, rather than two separate plans for CalWORKs and Child Welfare Services.

2. Behavioral Health Collaborative

The H.I.R.E Ground program (Reaching Health, Innovation, Responsibility, Employment) assists CalWORKs and Child Welfare parents to deal with mental health and substance abuse issues and remove barriers to employment by addressing issues such as anger management, anxiety coping skills, relapse prevention, depression, stress management, trauma, and relationship/communication issues through assessment, individual therapy and group work. The H.I.R.E. Ground team is dedicated to providing holistic care with on-site clinical work, life coaching, and group therapy. This program is funded in part through PSSF funds.

3. Public Health

Public Health provides support to families through the Women, Infants, and Children (W.I.C.) program, California Children's Services for children with disabilities needing assistance with health care and Child Health and Disability Prevention Services. While part of the HHSA, they are not co-located with Adult & Children's Services. This does not impact the provision of services, as there is a STAGE bus that can take clients from the Behavioral Health/Adult & Children's Services building to the Public Health location, and bus passes are provided so that parents can get to services.

4. Alcohol and Drug Treatment

Alcohol and Drug Services are also provided by Behavioral Health staff co-located in the same building with Adult & Children's Services. Next Step, Turn Around and LifeWORKs programs provide intensive drug and alcohol treatment and after care support. Transportation is provided for those who need it. The co-location of Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) with Child Welfare Services has made it very easy for parents who need an assessment for intensive AOD services to speak with someone on the treatment team quickly. Often, AOD staff are available to speak with a parent, get preliminary information and get releases of information signed immediately, thus starting the assessment process. AOD certified staff working half time in Child Welfare Services to coordinate the Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC), has helped to bridge the gap between Child Welfare and drug and alcohol treatment program requirements. The Drug Court program has been very successful in assisting child welfare parents to address their drug and alcohol issues in order to be able to safely parent their children. AOD and Child Welfare staff have formed an alliance in order to provide a unified presence so that parents cannot play one system against the other. Drug testing results are used to hold parents accountable in the FDTC and the AOD program so that they can move forward in their recovery.

5. Mental Health

The collaboration between Child Welfare and Behavioral Health required by the Katie A. settlement has necessitated close contact between Child Welfare and Behavioral Health staff. Being located in the same building has made this easier. Crisis counselors are also co-located in the same building with Adult & Children's Services staff and can respond to a request for assistance very rapidly. This has been very helpful when working with despondent clients who are not sure they can continue with life after their children have been removed, particularly when they are coping

with mental health issues. There is also a south county office for provision of mental health services, allowing parents a choice in service area access.

An integrated continuum of care for children and families is made possible by these services being provided under the umbrella of the Health and Human Services Agency. Barriers to communication have been removed or greatly reduced due to the combined administrative oversight after the merger and co-location has made collaboration easier. Parents and children can speak to their clinician and Child Welfare social worker in the same room at the same time, thus reducing misunderstandings and confusion as to roles and expectations.

VI. State and Federally Mandated Child Welfare/Probation Initiatives

A. Child Welfare Placement Initiatives

Child Welfare and Behavioral Health staff have formed a close working collaboration providing appropriate mental health services to children in the Katie A. subclass. Monthly meetings are held which include a case manager for Behavioral Health, the Program Manager of Adult & Children's Services, the Court Supervisor for Child Welfare, the site supervisor for Children's System of Care, the Deputy Director for the Social Services Division and the Deputy Director of Clinical Services. This is a skilled working group of dedicated professionals who are committed to the successful implementation of Katie A. requirements and protocols. Issues are brought forward and discussed and decisions are agreed upon. The required six month update reports have been submitted to the state in a timely manner. Family team meetings are occurring on a monthly basis and children have been returned home safely due, at least in part, to the collaboration amongst all parties.

Child Welfare has successfully implemented AB 12 and has one youth currently taking advantage of this program and one who will be eligible in the near future. With the foster care eligibility worker co-located with Adult & Children's Services, questions about eligibility and Non-Minor Dependent requirements for the program can be quickly answered.

B. Probation Placement Initiatives

The Probation Department has successfully managed and continues to manage multiple youth who have entered into Non-Minor Dependency and the Fostering Connections After 18 Program. Several youth are attending college, have employment, maintain independent and stable residency, and several youth have voiced their appreciation for the program and the continued rapport with the officers.

Probation has two cases that were eligible for Katie A. services. Probation was involved in a collaborative Katie A. planning meeting for one case which ended up back in custody and placement, and one case which opted for continued services through HealTherapy rather than County Behavioral Health. The cooperative Katie A. planning for an eligible case has thus far met the needs of the youth to the extent they were in a position to receive them.

Through successful pre-placement efforts to keep families intact or youth placed with relatives, and successful reunifications with other viable relatives through family findings efforts, the Probation Department has reduced the need for placement from over twenty youth in group homes in 2012 to just seven in group homes currently. That number is expected to fall to just two youth in group homes by August, 2014.

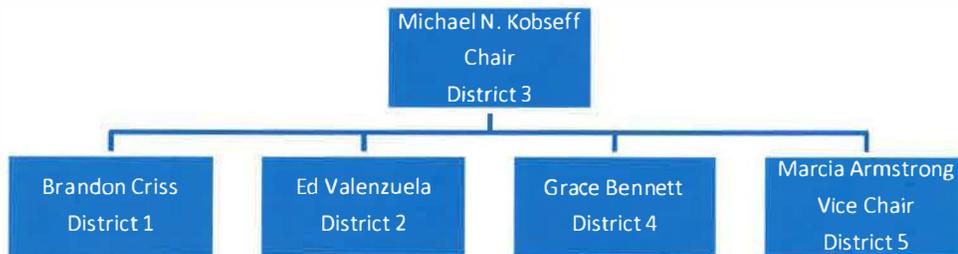
VII. Board of Supervisors (BOS), Designated Commissions, Boards or Bodies

THE SISKIYOU COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

The Board of Supervisors is a five-member Board elected from five supervisorial districts. Supervisors are elected for four-year terms with the Chairman being elected by the members each year.

The Board of Supervisors is the policy making body of the County of Siskiyou, and with the assistance and advice of County Departments Heads, performs the administrative as well as legislative function of the County government.

The Board is vested with both expressed and implied responsibilities, which enables them to carry out these functions on behalf of the taxpayers of the County, and to ensure efficiency in government at the local level. The elected five-member Board serves in various capacities which include reviewing and approving department budgets, purchase of capital assets and has budgetary authority for County departments. The board examines and studies State and Federal regulations, which affect Siskiyou County and its departments and people.



THE BOS DESIGNATED PUBLIC AGENCY

The Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA) is the designated public agency for the administration of CAPIT, CBCAP, and PSSF program funds.

A. CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION COUNCIL (CAPC)

The Community Services Council (CSC) is the BOS designated Child Abuse Prevention Council (CAPC). The CSC is a nonprofit corporation that works closely with County staff to coordinate prevention and early intervention efforts. They coordinate prevention activities throughout the county, providing family-oriented activities through the ten Family/Community Resource Centers. They provide information and referral services to community members and address child abuse concerns in the community. The CSC, under a contract with the HHSA, provides differential response services throughout the county.

SISKIYOU COMMUNITY SERVICES COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

Name	Job Title	Agency/Department
Kirk Andrus	District Attorney	Office of the District Attorney Siskiyou County
Russell Attebery	Chairman	Karuk Tribe of California
Terry Barber	Director	Health and Human Services Agency
Keith Bradley	Senior Chaplin	Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department
Keith Cool	Business Owner	Mt. Shasta Supermarket
Brandon Criss	District 1 Representative	Board of Supervisors
Robert Frost	Interim President	College of the Siskiyous
Todd Heie	Chief Probation Officer	Siskiyou County Probation Department
Jon Lopey	Sheriff	Siskiyou County Sheriff's Department
Laura Masunaga	Superior Court Judge	Superior Court of California, Siskiyou County
Kathy Suvia	Director of Education and Workforce Development	The Health Alliance of Northern California
Nancy Swift	Executive Director	Jefferson Economic Development Institute
Kermith Walters	Superintendent	Siskiyou County Office of Education

B. COUNTY CHILDREN’S TRUST FUND COMMISSION, BOARD OR COUNCIL

The Siskiyou County CAPC is designated to administer the County Children's Trust Fund (CCTF). Bi-annually the CAPC presents to the BOS to obtain approval on the recommended programs and activities to be funded by the CCTF. As indicated on the Certification of CCTF form, Siskiyou County deposits 100% of CBCAP funds into the CCTF to be used for child abuse and neglect prevention and intervention activities.

C. PSSF COLLABORATIVE

Due to our size, we do not have a formal PSSF Collaborative; the Program Manager for Child Welfare Services is responsible for the utilization of PSSF funds. An informal collaborative of county staff, community partners and the Community Services Council provides continuity of service provision throughout the county. The Health and Human Services Agency uses the PSSF funds (specifically Time Limited Reunification, Family Support, and Family Preservation Funds) to support, in conjunction with CalWORKs mental health and substance abuse funds, the H.I.R.E. Program (these funds have previously been used to support The Bridge and Life WORKs programs). Child Welfare Services has used the Adoption Promotion and Support portion of the PSSF funds to contract with a community based organization to provide training to adoptive and prospective adoptive families. In FY 2014-2016, this portion of the PSSF funds will be contracted to CSC to provide the same services, due to the great success

they have had administering other programs locally and their investment in child abuse prevention and early intervention in Siskiyou County.

IX. Systemic Factors

A. MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Child Welfare uses a variety of methods to monitor quality assurance, including SafeMeasures®, the CWS/CMS Dynamic Report System through University of California, Berkley, and Business Objects. Once a month, the emergency response supervisor collects data from SafeMeasures® on the number of children removed from their home, petitions filed, and placement types and provides these figures to both fiscal and management staff. Management reports are developed and then discussed at the monthly Social Services Management Meetings.

At weekly supervisor/program manager meetings, caseload data is discussed and trends are noted. Formerly, there were only two Business Objects licenses in the county; one assigned to the CWS/CMS help-desk and the other assigned to the information systems (IS) staff. The IS staff person assigned to the help desk function has been out on leave for a considerable period of time and this created a difficult situation in terms of the use of Business Objects. The staff services analyst assigned to Child Welfare was recently given access to Business Objects and will now be able to develop and regularly run reports to assist the assessment of the efficacy of programs provided to families.

With the addition of a staff services analyst to the Child Welfare team a year ago, it should be possible to develop, update, and finalize procedures that are in various stages of completion. The procedures will provide assistance to staff as they deal with increasingly complex cases.

Child Welfare social workers and support staff are sent to the CWS/CMS New Users Training series through University of California, Davis. This ensures that all staff using CWS/CMS have an understanding of basic CWS/CMS navigation, and also ensures that each case is entered the same way. New social work staff work with supervisors and lead workers to enhance their knowledge and ensure that information is correctly entered into CWS/CMS and will accurately reflect the County's performance.

A specific data entry issue that caused concern involved five non-dependent legal guardian cases which had been entered incorrectly. It appeared as though they needed to be visited in their home once a month; where in reality they are on a six-month visit requirement. The entry of the case type was corrected and should not be a problem in the future. Data from the CWS/CMS system is analyzed by supervisors and the program manager on a monthly basis to ensure that cases are in the correct program and that social worker contact is occurring as required.

The Probation Department Deputy Chief has identified deficits in entering proper end dates upon supervisor approval of closing a placement episode in CWS/CMS. To address the barriers, training will be requested to resolve the issues.

B. CASE REVIEW SYSTEM

B1. Child Welfare

Child Welfare practices comply with all Division 31 and Welfare and Institutions Code sections, ensuring that all cases are reviewed within the statutory guidelines, all youth are visited once a month in their place of residence, and every effort is made to find a permanent home with a lasting connection to an adult if the youth cannot be safely returned to their parents. This process is under the supervision of the court and emergency response supervisor, the program manager, and the attorneys who represent the Agency.

Cases are reviewed in court every six months, or within the legislatively determined time frame. All parties are sent timely notices and great care is taken to meet the notice requirements under the Indian Child Welfare Act if it is applicable to the case. All parties are appointed legal counsel, providing they fall under the income limitations. All minors are appointed an attorney (who also acts as a guardian ad litem for the minor) and Court Appointed Special Advocates are appointed when available. At times, separate counsel may be appointed for sibling minors if their case requires separate representation, such as when one sibling has been aggressive or has sexually molested another sibling.

Reports are written by the social worker assigned to the case and reviewed by the court unit supervisor and County Counsel. Suggested changes are then made and the report is filed timely and served to all parties by the legal secretary.

Termination of parental rights hearings are held according to statutory guidelines. Every effort is made to have children remain safely with their parents. Once removal is necessary, considerable effort is made to place them safely with family members and when that is not possible, social workers focus on timely termination of parental rights to ensure that every child has a safe, permanent home. At the review hearings held every six months, the social worker writes a detailed report that informs the Judge and all parties of the efforts made to locate a permanent home for the minor. At times it is not possible to place the minor in a permanent home, due to the minor's ties to the parent, mental health challenges they may be experiencing, or their inability to bond to a caretaker due to early trauma.

State Adoptions has worked with Agency staff and has found adoptive homes for several extremely difficult to place youth, such as a teen who was adopted by a former group home staff member (and his wife) who came to know and love the youth and claimed him as his own. This youth had very violent and challenging behaviors and extreme attachment issues. The Judge does not want to create legal orphans by terminating parental rights when there is no viable adoptive parent present, so efforts are continued to find an adoptive home for those youth who have been in care 15 of the last 22 months and the case is reviewed in detail every six months to review their progress. The State Adoptions worker attends every law and motion calendar when one of their cases is on calendar, to answer to the Judge in person and update the Court as to what progress has been made in finding a permanent home.

Behavioral Health is notified of every detention hearing and assigned staff attend as often as time allows. Releases of information are obtained (referrals have already been made by the social worker if therapy is indicated by the nature of the case) and parents are able to start services quickly. Appointments are made for children for an assessment and they are set up for appropriate services as soon as possible. Clinicians have received training in providing trauma-based services. Parents are referred, with their agreement, to the Family Dependency Treatment Court so that they receive weekly structure and support regarding their substance abuse issues.

Every attempt is made by Court staff to have the same judge hear all Siskiyou County Juvenile Court proceedings, to provide consistency and reduce time spent in having another judge familiarize themselves with the cases. The judge also presides over the Family Dependency Treatment Court, so there is consistency for parents reporting their progress to the same judge.

Child Welfare Services has a very positive working relationship with the Court, which is a great strength in a small county with limited staff. Quarterly Blue Ribbon Commission meetings are held to discuss concerns and input is given to the judge, as chair of the meeting, as to suggested solutions. Attendees at this meeting include: County Counsel and attorneys practicing in dependency proceedings, staff from the Behavioral Health Division, Child Welfare Services, Probation, Foster Family Agencies, the Karuk Tribe, the Quartz Valley Tribe, Court Mediator, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), County Office of Education, and other service providers as available. One of the benefits of working closely together is that potential problems are raised and solutions offered while the issue is still manageable.

An area that needs improvement is the psychological medication application process and that is currently being worked on by all parties. The Juvenile Court Judge has expressed concerns about signing orders for psychological medications for minors and requires detailed JV 220 forms filled out by a psychiatrist. Child Welfare staff support this position, but it can be a difficult and time consuming task to obtain all the required paperwork. Meetings have taken place with Behavioral Health, Child Welfare Services and the judge in an effort to streamline the process and provide the required information to the Court.

The Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) conducted a Title IV-E Dependency Compliance Review in Siskiyou County on May 21, 2012. During this review the AOC reviewed seven detention hearings, five pre-permanency hearings, two permanency hearings and seven post-permanency hearings. Of these hearings, Siskiyou County met 100% timeliness compliance in detention hearings, permanency hearings and post-permanency hearings. However, Siskiyou County only met 80% timeliness compliance in pre-permanency hearings. The Court did not fully document the finding of exceptional circumstances and thus Siskiyou County only met compliance by 80%.

The AOC found that Siskiyou County did not consistently complete and file the Parental Notification of Indian Status (form ICWA-020) and the Statement Regarding Parentage (form JV-505). Further the Court did not direct the court clerk to prepare and submit the Parentage Inquiry- Juvenile (form JV-500). The AOC recommended that Siskiyou County review and update forms and templates to ensure that all the issues subject to judicial review are considered and appropriate findings and orders are recommended and made as required under federal and state law. County Counsel and Child Welfare staff worked to update all forms and templates and they are reviewed on a regular basis. Another AOC review took place in June 2014. A formal report has not yet been received, but the AOC representative suggested that the County download the Judicial Council forms from their website for filings for non-minor dependents. The website will be checked for new forms on a regular basis to ensure that the correct forms are utilized.

Structured Decision Making (SDM) is used by the Agency during the very first contact the screener has with someone making a referral. SDM continues to be used as the case unfolds, at various decision making points, such as assessing the safety of unsupervised visits and return home.

Initial needs and strengths service plans are developed by the emergency response social worker. If the parents are open to a team meeting, family team meetings are held to discuss the families' needs. If appropriate, a referral to the Behavioral Health Division is made at the detention hearing, which is also attended by Behavioral Health staff. Parents are frequently amenable to working with Behavioral Health.

The detention to disposition worker refines the plan to truly meet the needs of the family, taking into account the information that has been received since the beginning of the case. The complete service plan is part of the Disposition Hearing. Care is taken to ensure that the goals set in the plan are behaviorally based and the objectives are tied to the original allegations. Visitation is part of the plan and the amount of visitation and nature of the contact (supervised vs. unsupervised) is worked out through discussion between all parties.

Safety Organized Practice was initiated several years ago, but due to staff turnover and changing job duties, it was not fully implemented. A three-day training took place in late June and procedures will be written in order to ensure the practice is used throughout a child's journey to safety and permanence by all staff. This is one strategy of the previous System Improvement Plan (SIP) that was not fully implemented and will be addressed in the upcoming SIP.

Child welfare has an excellent relationship with the Court Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) Program; Child welfare supervisors are asked to train new CASA volunteers, explaining the child welfare process and the reasoning behind decisions that are made on cases; communication is timely and informative between the court unit supervisor and the CASA manager should issues arise.

Child Welfare and Probation also have a good working relationship. The 241.1 Protocol developed in 2007 has proven to be a useful tool if parties disagree at decision making points in a case. Recent collaboration between Probation and Child Welfare, in conjunction with Behavioral Health, County Office of Education, and County Counsel have resulted in a unique and creative placement of a difficult to place youth under the jurisdiction of the protocol.

B2. Probation

The legal secretary mails notice to all parties fourteen days in advance of any placement related hearings. The youth are advised of their right to appear in person at any hearing or telephonically.

The Probation Department follows the mandatory six month placement review cycle and schedules hearings accordingly. The Probation Department follows the mandatory 12 month Permanency Hearing review cycle and schedules permanency hearings every 12 months thereafter.

The Probation Department has not currently focused on termination of parental rights for youth in care 15 out of the last 22 months of care, because compelling reasons supporting maintenance of parental rights has been found to be in the youth's best interest in current cases.

The Siskiyou County Assessment Review Team (ART) meets weekly to discuss placement and foster care cases and submits case reviews for all recommendations for foster care placement. The ART weekly meetings include coordination of child welfare, mental health, and probation services. Through ART or by direct referral, the Probation Department communicates with Behavioral Health to assess and address trauma.

To develop behaviorally based goals and objectives, the Probation Department utilizes the validated Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) to identify risks and criminogenic needs, family and youth input, family social history information, ART evaluation, psychiatric information, school staff information, and assigned counselor (Heal Therapy therapists) input.

The Probation Department has been using the Probation Aide position to focus on Family Finding efforts and coordinate with placement staff to modify case plans accordingly when designing family counseling objectives and goals. We also elicit assistance from Heal Therapy therapists to engage the family/extended family in the case plan objectives and goals.

The Placement DPO II utilizes the PACT risk and needs tool as a starting point to communicate the identified needs of the youth and caregiver/family. The youth, family, and therapists, design an inclusive case plan as the probation officer utilizes Motivational Interviewing techniques to allow the youth and family to be the primary drivers of the plan. Through the process, the probation officer informs the youth and caregivers of the rights and responsibilities to the case plan.

Case review barriers are tied to traditional barriers such as transportation to the placement or probation office to work on case plan objectives and goals. Transportation barriers are addressed by giving gas cards to family and having the probation aide drive youth and family to appointments when possible. Transportation and distance remains the biggest barrier to family reunification efforts for youth in placement.

Through ART, the Probation Department promotes the constant improvement in the relationship with Child Welfare and this has been a very supportive environment. The Probation Department includes the CASA representative whenever appropriate, operates and has a close relationship with the Juvenile Drug Court Judge and has an ICWA policy that follows ICWA protocol and promotes the inclusion of the Tribe at all stages of case planning.

C. FOSTER AND ADOPTIVE PARENT LICENSING, RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

Siskiyou County is currently not actively recruiting County foster homes and does not license adoptive homes. Children are placed in a foster family agency home until they can be reunified with a parent, or placed with relatives or non-related extended family members. There is currently only one foster family agency accepting placements in Siskiyou County, where in the past there have been several. This leads to a constant struggle to make an appropriate match when children need to be placed out of their home. There is one other foster family agency operating in the county, however, they are focused on providing specialty mental health services.

Following Agency procedure, social workers request criminal record clearances of all family members and non-related extended family members (NREFM) who request placement of children under the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court. Social workers notify tribal social workers if a tribal child needs placement out of the home and a relative cannot be located to safely care for the child. There are several tribally approved homes that are known to the social workers and a close working relationship has been established with them.

The Agency follows the Interstate Compact on the Placement of Children (ICPC) to ensure children are safely supervised when placed out of the state and requests courtesy supervision when children are placed at a great distance out of the county. Youth falling under the 241.1 Protocol benefit from both social workers and probation officers working together to facilitate the best permanent placements for youth. At the weekly ART meetings, information on placement resources and their effectiveness is discussed.

Staff changes in group homes can impact the effectiveness of placements and sharing placement experiences can assist with finding the best placement for a particular youth. One youth was recently reunified with his mother by Probation; even though parental rights had been terminated years earlier by Child Welfare. He

was older and his mother had made substantial progress in her substance abuse recovery. This was truly a success story for this young man.

D. STAFF, CAREGIVER AND SERVICE PROVIDER TRAINING

All new social workers are sent to the California Common Core training after they have been on the job for a brief period of time, so that they can get acclimated to the work and have some background before they go to training. As issues arise that indicate the need for further training, workers are sent to appropriate training to enable them to succeed at their jobs. All current social workers have completed Common Core, but it has been a struggle for social workers to complete Phase Two Core requirements.

Currently, 0 of 9 social workers have completed Phase Two Core requirements. Two new social workers have completed the required Line Worker Common Core training. Six social workers were required to complete ongoing training requirements, and two did so and four were unable to do so. Time away from the job, distance to travel to classes (some are available online) and class cancellations have created challenges for the completion of Phase Two. The one supervisor required to complete the Supervisor Common Core has done so.

Child Welfare designated a portion of PSSF Adoption Promotion and Support funds to four trainings in collaboration with College of the Siskiyous (COS) Foster/Kinship Care Education (FKCE) and First Five: Learning the Dance of Attachment, Framework for Understanding Poverty; Helping Children Grieve: Understanding the Complexities of Grief for a Child who has Experienced Trauma, Adoption and/or Foster Care Environment; and Resiliency in Action: How to Build “Bounce Back” Kids. These trainings provided valuable information to community members, adoptive/prospective adoptive parents and social work staff.

Child Welfare staff are also invited to Behavioral Health trainings, including cultural competence, and providing services to LGBTQ youth. The Social Services Division of the Agency also holds regular trainings on cultural sensitivity.

College of the Siskiyous Foster/Kinship Care Education (FKCE) Program provides numerous trainings for care providers. The FKCE program provides the Foster Pride training for care providers and prospective adoptive parents. Many trainings are intended for group presentation, but can also be provided for as few as two attendees (it can be a challenge for care providers to arrange respite care so they can attend trainings). FKCE can provide technical assistance to care providers and has a large lending library of books and tapes that have proven to be useful to caregivers. One of the clear messages from the Peer Review is that relative caregivers and NREFMs need more training and support, particularly education around the emotional needs of the children being placed with them. More effort is needed to connect these caregivers with FKCE. Additionally, trauma informed training needs to be provided so that children are provided appropriate support in their placements, enabling them to be successful and reducing the number of placement changes.

The Probation Department has had the Placement DPO IIs and DCPO attend Probation Placement Core and Extended Foster Care training within one year of assignment to the placement position. The DCPO also completed Placement Supervisory training within one year of assignment as supervisor over the placement officer. Ongoing trainings through the University of California Davis Extension (U.C. Davis) are utilized at every opportunity. Attendance at the bi-monthly Probation Advisory Committee at U.C. Davis keeps the placement probation officer and DCPO updated on the latest available trainings and best practices. Skill development is measured by supervisory evaluation of the responsibilities outlined in the placement officer classification. Experienced staff are consulted within and from other departments to gauge progress.

E. AGENCY COLLABORATION

Child Welfare and Probation staff have historically worked together to ensure the best services are provided to youth and families and to make the best placement choices when possible when youth need to be placed out of home. The ART meets weekly and has proven to be a productive way to share information as a Multi-Disciplinary Team and to transition youth from Dependency to Probation or vice versa under the 241.1 Protocol. This is in addition to the HHSA programs previously detailed in E. Other County Programs above, and with the Community Services Council as detailed under F. Service Array.

The Probation Department utilizes Family Resource Centers in all available communities for community service, parenting classes, drug and alcohol classes, and employment resources. Probation utilizes the staff at the Domestic Violence program to teach victim offender classes in juvenile hall and refer family members in need of services. The probation department utilizes the Behavioral Health “Transformations” Alcohol and Substance Abuse program that also includes a co-occurring disorder and trauma component.

Both Child Welfare and Probation work with the Office of Education and the foster care liaison to assess children and youth who may need assistance with achieving success in school, such as individual education plans (IEP) and speech therapy. Speech therapy is offered through the Office of Education by a speech pathologist and is tailored to each child’s specific need. Tutoring for youth in foster care is provided through the foster care liaison, and Child Welfare Services also has a contract for tutoring in case the need exceeds the COE contract.

Child Welfare and Probation also work with the local tribes to comply with the Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) placement preferences and tribal education. In July 2014, Child Welfare and Probation attended training through the Karuk Tribe called Cross-Court Cultural Exchange: Co-operating to Combat Family Violence and Improve Safety. This training allowed for a variety of county agencies to have a better understanding of the tribal court process and services offered by the Karuk Tribe. Furthermore, this training provided an opportunity to cultivate the relationship between Child Welfare and the Karuk Tribe’s new staff members. Social workers from both the Karuk Tribe and Quartz Valley Indian Reservation routinely work together on cases involving tribal children.

Child Welfare provides mandated reporter training for law enforcement agencies as well as Siskiyou Domestic Violence and Crisis Center and the County Office of Education. Mandated reporter training was also recently provided to Behavioral Health staff and is provided on a regular basis to eligibility staff. Future countywide mandated reporter trainings will be scheduled, which will include the medical community and the Family/Community Resource Centers. The agencies cross report information to each other when appropriate in the course of their daily work demands. At this time the County does not have a Memorandum of Understanding with law enforcement or Siskiyou Domestic Violence and Crisis Center.

Child Welfare collaborates with College of the Siskiyous to provide training and support for foster care providers. College of the Siskiyous provides technical assistance to caregivers as needed and also has a lending library that caregivers can use to as a resource in addition to the Foster/Kinship Education Program.

Child Welfare primarily works with Children First, a foster family agency, to find the best possible placement for children. Children First offers training and support for foster parents, as well as active recruitment for potential foster caregivers. Children First also provides supervised visitation services when needed.

A more detailed explanation of agency collaboration can be found in Section V. page 19, Political Jurisdictions and Section VI. Page 27, Placement Initiatives.

F. SERVICE ARRAY

The County, through a wide array of providers, offers a multitude of services to children and their families who are at risk of abuse or neglect and/or in foster care. Due to the County's small population size these services, while open to the public, can be tailored and individualized to the specific needs of the child and family. Culturally relevant services are provided through the local tribes and Family/Community Resource Centers. Independent Living Skills are provided to ILP youth through monthly meetings and individual casework with the County Office of Education liaison and social workers. The Probation department works very closely with local tribe(s) to facilitate shared involvement in case planning with some outstanding results which avoided unnecessary placement(s).

The State of California Adoptions District Office, provides assistance during the court process to find permanent adoptive placements, free children from parental custody, provide assessment of adoptability, and finalize the adoption of the child(ren). Additionally, the District Office provides information and referral to adoptive and/or prospective parents. The District Office actively recruits adoptive families and provides independent adoption services. The District Office provides services through the Interstate Compact for the Placement of Children (ICPC) and post adoptive services which support and transition the child(ren) and family.

The Behavioral Health Division of the SCHSA offers child and adolescent outpatient services through the Children's System of Care and through organizational providers such as Remi Vista and Northern Valley Catholic Social Service. An early childhood mental health program is offered through Northern Valley Catholic Social Service. The Behavioral Health Division provides family reunification counseling for Child Welfare and Juvenile Probation youth. Wraparound and Katie A. services are also available and utilized by Child Welfare. The Behavioral Health Division also monitors the placements of youth in Group Home Rate Classification Levels (RCL) fourteen.

Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) services, prevention services, assessment and treatment services are all available through the Behavioral Health Division. AOD provides drug diversion, prevention education, relapse prevention and aftercare groups. Through Proposition 36 and the Substance Abuse and Crime Prevention Act (SACPA), Behavioral Health offers intensive outpatient services. Additionally, AOD staff participate in the drug courts for adults, juveniles, and families. Perinatal services are available through the Next Step Intensive Outpatient program. Detox support and intervention is available and referrals to residential treatment centers are made when necessary. In past years, there have been waiting lists for Alcohol and Drug or counseling services, through Behavioral Health. Behavioral Health has made great efforts to hire staff and increase capacity. Waiting lists are no longer an issue. Clients can immediately be offered LifeWorks services. The LifeWorks program offers education on all major substances of abuse, assists participants in defining addiction and alcoholism, and teaches participants about the medical consequences of addiction. LifeWorks provides cognitive restructuring and supports participants in reinvesting in themselves, their family and the community. Additionally, LifeWorks offers education on healthy boundaries and relationships as well as how diet affects cravings for substances.

Relapse prevention is also included in the LifeWorks program. Relapse prevention services include the stages of change and the slippery slope of addiction and relapse. Relapse prevention includes education on the symptoms of recovery, identifying triggers and compulsions. Participants are given the tools necessary

to cope with the changes in recovery. Additionally, participants are supported in changing their environment and creating new social connections. Conflict resolution and assertiveness training is given to participants as well as behaviors to deal with strong emotions and resolving resentment.

Life recovery skills are also included as part of the LifeWorks program. These services include teaching participants how to communicate while in recovery and how to create structure and time management skills. Additionally, participants are given training in goal setting and provided with life coaching. Participants are educated in stress management, parenting, anger management and domestic violence.

The Siskiyou Child Care Council (SCCC) is a nonprofit organization that provides child care and other resources. In the 2010-2011 fiscal year, SCCC paid approximately \$1 million for child care and over \$300,000 for preschool for children and families throughout Siskiyou County. The SCCC provides assistance with child care costs, a toy and resource lending library, and assistance with the expense of purchasing healthy food for child care centers. Additionally, SCCC operates a child care center that provides preschool and child care services.

Children First is the primary foster family agency in Siskiyou County. The agency provides certification of foster family homes and placement for children aged 0-18. Immediate response services are available 24 hours a day. Supervised visitation services are also available. The agency is able to provide transportation for out of county services, such as medical and dental appointments.

College of the Siskiyous is the County's community college; there are two campuses one in south county and one in north county. The college provides parenting students with child care and after school programs which include: Discovery Children's Center, a child care and preschool program, and Early Discovery Center for toddlers. The college also provides grants to students in the CalWORKs program to help pay for childcare.

Siskiyou County Family Law services provides a parent orientation program, mediation services for child custody, visitation and dependency. Additionally, there are clinics held on self-help in the area of family law and small claims. The family court is able to provide child care voucher payments for customers during clinics, court and/or mediation.

The Siskiyou County First Five Commission contributes funds to the Family Resource Centers (FRC). The services and activities provided through the FRC network is detailed below under the Siskiyou Community Council. First Five has funded an oral health project, which stresses the importance of oral hygiene. In addition, First Five distributes children's books and parenting resources such as, monthly articles and public service announcements.

Great Northern Corporation provides the Home Energy Assistance Program (HEAP), a federally funded program that helps low-income households pay their electric bills or other heating provider costs. In addition, Great Northern assists in home weatherization and rehabilitation of homes. These services are provided free and are available to both homeowners and renters who qualify. Great Northern also offers programs and resources to provide the educational opportunities, training, technical support, and tools for residents to start small businesses. Additionally, Great Northern is designated by the State of California, and the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors, to distribute USDA Commodities and emergency food in our area. These services provide much needed help to families struggling with the costs of providing warm housing and adequate food supplies for their children. The program reduces stress for these families and is one of the most utilized resources in the county.

The Quartz Valley Tribe offers an equine facilitated psychotherapy for youth ages 4 to 18 through a contract with HealTherapy. In this program, clients are seen by their licensed therapist on a weekly basis for individual sessions of Experiential equine facilitated therapy, where they are joined by an internationally certified horse professional. These sessions typically are one hour in length, and are provided at a Professional Association of Therapeutic Horsemanship (PATH) certified arena site. Transportation is provided for participants of the equine program. In addition to the weekly equine sessions, clients may also be periodically seen for individual psychotherapy with their clinician, and their parents or legal guardians.

The Karuk Tribe and Quartz Valley Indian Rancheria provide Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) services and medical and dental clinics. In addition, drug and alcohol treatment programs, domestic violence classes and legal services are available to tribal members. The tribes offer tribal courts and social services such as Tribal Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF), housing assistance, and cultural education.

Northern Valley Catholic Social Service (NVCSS) provides counseling and Medi-Cal Wraparound services. Additionally, NVCSS provides an early childhood mental health program and a maternal and child health program. NVCSS has Care Line, a counseling program that targets elderly individuals offering support, assistance, crisis intervention, abuse prevention, medication reminders and well-being checks.

Remi Vista Incorporated, a foster family agency, provides certification of foster family homes and foster care placement for children. However, they currently have six certified foster homes in Siskiyou County. Additionally, Remi Vista provides therapeutic behavioral services (TBS), and intervention for children aged 0-3 with developmental delays. Through the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Remi Vista provides community counseling, social, emotional and mental health services for youth and families.

Siskiyou Domestic Violence and Crisis Center (SDV&CC) is a non-profit community based organization that provides 24 hour crisis response and a hotline. In addition, there is an emergency shelter for women and their children. SDV&CC provides legal advocacy and assistance to victims of domestic violence and sexual assault. Funds are available for household establishment assistance to help victims of domestic violence relocate. SDV&CC provides violence prevention education to schools and public presentations to community groups. Prevention education includes rape prevention, sexual harassment, date rape and acquaintance rape awareness, healthy and unhealthy relationship education, bullying prevention, violence prevention and self-esteem classes. Group and individual counseling is available for clients.

Workforce Connection offers community services such as job search assistance and interview preparation skills. Career guidance, employer recruitments and labor market information are available. Community members can obtain certified keyboarding testing as well as math and reading skills training. At this time, the Workforce Connection is only located in southern Siskiyou County, but there is a Computer Resource Center (CRC) in the Social Services building in Yreka that provides some of these services.

The Siskiyou Community Council partners with agencies and FRC/CRCs to offer a variety of services in many areas of the county.

1. FRC Network

Recognizing the importance of community-based family resource and support programs in reducing child abuse and neglect, the Community Services Council (CSC) focuses staffing, technical assistance, training and funding to support a sustainable network of Family and Community Resource Centers (FRC/CRCs). Currently ten Resource Centers operate throughout the County,

serving even the most isolated families and communities and connecting residents to an extensive menu of services and support.

FRC/CRC services include resource and referral, as well as evidence-based education programs. Their programs include: parenting, anger management, family support services and case management utilizing the Family Development Matrix, Path 2 Differential Response, application assistance, drug and alcohol relapse prevention, and mental health prevention and early intervention. Their community education programs offer ongoing workshops, family activities, and health and nutrition promotion.

2. CA 4 Health

CSC partners with the Siskiyou County Public Health, the ten Family and Community Resource Centers, and local health providers on this project. CSC recruits, trains, and implements the Chronic Disease Self Management curricula; and promotes coordination and community awareness via local Health Summits and is supporting the development of a Community Health Worker program.

3. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) - Prevention, Early Intervention (PEI)

The CSC works closely with the Behavioral Health Division to implement prevention and early intervention programming through ten Family and Community Resource Centers. Under contract with the Behavioral Health Division, the CSC plans, implements, and evaluates countywide PEI programs and services at ten FRC/CRCs. The CSC works closely with the Behavioral Health Division to support program training, coordinate services and identify gaps.

4. Child Abuse Prevention

As Siskiyou County's designated Child Abuse Prevention Council, the CSC complies with the Welfare and Institutions Code, State statutes and requirements to engage residents, work closely with Child Welfare Services (CWS), and bring together countywide partners to coordinate Child Abuse Prevention services to address root causes of abuse and neglect. CSC oversees social marketing and community education around child abuse prevention information through various local partnerships and implementation of the *Communities NOW!* program, a national, research-based, community-based initiative built upon the belief that all people who are concerned about the safety and well-being of the children in their communities need to be encouraged and taught to make a difference to prevent child abuse and neglect. *Communities NOW!* utilizes a capacity-building approach involving training, technical assistance, and evaluation to help implement and sustain *Communities NOW!* in local communities

5. Ford Strong Families – Strong Communities/CAPIT Strong Families

CSC works with the ten Siskiyou FRC/CRCs to partner with Child Welfare Services for a comprehensive, coordinated, strategic response to pervasive child abuse and neglect via local education, mobilization and family support for those at risk of entry to the child welfare system. The CSC coordinates Differential Response for implementation through FRC/CRC sites providing voluntary and comprehensive community-based services for families identified as being at-risk.

Families referred by CWS or the community receive home visitation, parenting education, referrals and many other support services provided by the Resource Centers and their agency partners.

6. Parent Education

CSC's long term, comprehensive, multi partner initiative provides high quality, countywide evidence-based parent education series, workshops, trainings and support programs through the ten FRC/CRC locations. Siskiyou's Parenting Program has consistently received the highest program rating, as determined by the program's evaluation team at Oregon State University. Data collected each year reflects significant improvement in parenting skills across all items.

7. Drug Free Communities/ Siskiyou Substance Abuse Coalition (SSAC)

Through CSC's federal Drug Free Communities (DFC) grant and DFC's SSAC community-based coalitions work to prevent and reduce substance abuse through multiple strategies and modalities including: youth protective factors, environmental strategies, changing social norms, coordinating and maximizing resources and effective use of existing prevention-intervention systems' support.

8. Community Corrections Partnership Education Program

CSC provides Criminal Justice Realignment-funded countywide education programming through the FRC/CRCs to specifically support individuals involved with criminal justice and at risk individuals and families with a menu of evidence-based education in parenting, anger management, substance abuse relapse prevention and allied programs.

9. Professional Education

Throughout the year, the CSC provides countywide education programming targeted to those professionals and paraprofessionals working with Siskiyou County families.

A more detailed listing of services available to families in Siskiyou County can be found in Attachment 1, Siskiyou County Service Array.

G. QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM

1. Child Welfare

Child Welfare statistics are derived from the Child Welfare Services/ Case Management System (CWS/CMS) and SafeMeasures®. Monthly reports are distributed to administration and fiscal staff by the Emergency Response supervisor. The program manager and court supervisor also review SafeMeasures® data throughout the month to monitor social worker performance and ensure compliance with CFSR requirements. This information is shared with staff at court and emergency response weekly unit meetings and social workers are directed to bring their data entry and casework into compliance. This information becomes part of their yearly performance appraisal. The reports from SafeMeasures® are reviewed at monthly meetings with child welfare supervisors and the program manager and anomalies are discussed. The Berkeley website provides the official data for monitoring of the County's performance on CSFR measures.

During the upcoming System Improvement Plan process, a formal case review process will be put into place. Continuous Quality Improvement will be implemented over the coming years of the SIP plan. This will allow supervisors and the program manager to ensure that the required data is accurately and timely entered into CWS/CMS, improving the county's performance in outcome measures.

ICWA and Multi Ethnic Placement Act (MEPA) placements are reviewed for compliance by County Counsel in the process of reviewing Court reports. Concurrent planning is also part of every Court report and overseen by County Counsel before the report is filed and distributed to all parties, as is the provision of ILP services to those youth fifteen and a half and older.

Children with mental health needs in the Katie A. subclass are referred to Behavioral Health and assessed for treatment. Child Welfare and Behavioral Health staff work together to ensure that children receive the mental health assessment and services they need. If psychotropic medications are indicated for the safety and stability of a youth, Behavioral Health and Child Welfare staff work together to present the JV220 Petition to the Court so that medication can be ordered, with the informed consent of the parents, child, attorneys and all involved parties.

The foster care nurse case assistant enters children's physical, dental and educational information into the CWS/CMS system through the Health and Education Passport. Referrals for treatment are made, immunization and exam information is gathered and children are provided the best health care available. The foster care nurse case assistant advocates with care providers so that children in out of home care receive the best medical and dental treatment possible.

This is a rural county with a limited number of health care providers who take Medi-Cal patients. This reduces the availability of both healthcare and dental services. One of the issues children frequently present when they come into care is that their medical and dental care has been with multiple providers; they may have moved frequently and their medical records may not all be together. By making sure the immunization records of the child are complete, duplicate immunizations are prevented. There is frequently a history of missed appointments. In some cases, the foster care nurse case assistant advocates for an appointment for the child with a specific doctor and guarantees the doctor that the child will be transported to the appointment, on time and with a responsible adult.

When examinations reveal that a child has special needs, referrals to Far Northern Regional Center, Early Head Start, and the State Preschool are made by the social worker. Transportation (or gas vouchers) is offered to parents if they are having difficulty making assessment appointments. Transportation is also offered to dental treatment in Atwater, should the children need sedation dentistry.

The Agency contracts with the Community Services Council (CSC) for prevention and early intervention programs, and monitors the compliance with the contracts through frequent interactions, such as, meetings, telephone calls and reports. The annual report to OCAP captures the populations served, the participation rates by the separate funding sources of CAPIT and CBCAP. In fiscal year 2014-2015, the contract will also include the adoption support portion of the PSSF funds. The Agency utilizes the remainder of the PSSF funds for the HIRE program.

2. Probation

The Probation department utilizes validated risk and needs assessments that have kept the vast majority of youth referred to the Probation department in home with their families with

community based supports. Probation also utilizes intensive family counseling interventions through HealTherapy that are designed to avoid out of home placement whenever possible. Probation is also active with the School Attendance Review Board (SARB) which allows early intervention in many cases before legal steps are required for child removal. The ART process is a strict evaluation process also utilized to prevent unnecessary placements.

The assignment of the probation aide to focus on family finding efforts has paid off in the identification of family members willing and able to care for youth who would otherwise be sent to placement and foster care. Identifying parents who previously had parental rights terminated but have proven through intensive counseling to now be a viable placement option, as well as, utilizing tribal oriented and suggested placements first when dealing with Native American youth.

A child welfare social worker assisted the DCPO and Placement DPO II in learning how to utilize SafeMeasures® to track compliance and accurate data input. The data analyst has assisted the DCPO in attempting to navigate the Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project to query for Case Service Components, Entries to Foster Care, Age and Ethnicity for the purposes of this CSA.

X. Critical Incident Review Process

The emergency response (ER) supervisor reports to the State the child fatalities and near fatalities determined to be the result of child abuse and/or neglect. The ER supervisor also participates in the County Child Death review team, which includes Law Enforcement, the District Attorney, Public Health, medical service providers, and others, depending on the nature of the case. The team meets on a quarterly basis to ensure communication amongst agencies and to identify trends that may need addressing. For example, several years ago, in response to a rise in Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), Public Health initiated an educational campaign called “Put Your Baby Back to Sleep”, to remind parents to put their infants in their cribs on their back.

XI. National Resource Center (NRC) Training and Technical Assistance (T/TA)

The County is not currently utilizing the NRC for T/TA, but would consider pursuing training and technical assistance with NRC should the need arise.

XII. Peer Review Results

A. FOCUS AREA

The focus areas selected for the Peer Review were Placement Stability for Child Welfare and Reunification within 12 months, entry cohort, for Probation. These focus areas were chosen during meetings with CDSS, Child Welfare and Probation after assessing the county's performance in outcome measures. These measures were where the County needed to show the most improvement. The County's performance in these two focus areas for the period of January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013 are as follows:

B. Performance

1. Child Welfare Performance:

C4.1: Placement Stability 8 days to 12 months in care

Siskiyou County: 76.9%
National Standard: 86.0%

C4.2: Placement Stability 12 to 24 months in care

Siskiyou County: 45.7%
National Standard: 65.4%

C4.3: Placement Stability at least 24 months in care

Siskiyou County: 27.3%
National Standard: 41.8%

2. Probation Performance:

C1.3: Reunification within 12 months entry cohort

Siskiyou County: 25%
National Standard: 48.4%

C. METHOD

The Siskiyou County Child Welfare and Juvenile Probation Peer Review was conducted on April 14-16, 2014. Siskiyou County invited six Peer Counties to participate in the Peer Review however, due to unforeseen circumstances only five Peer Counties were able to participate. These peers included three social workers, one social worker supervisor, and one probation officer. Several counties were represented, including Colusa, Butte, Shasta, Tehama, and Trinity.

Peer reviewers were divided into two interview teams consisting of two social workers and the one probation officer who participated on both teams when a probation case was presented. Child Welfare selected six cases that were identified due to difficulty in finding placement stability for the child(ren)

involved. Probation selected two cases where parents were unable to reunify within twelve months. Child Welfare social workers and the placing probation officer were interviewed by the peer reviewers to identify strengths and barriers/challenges in each case. These strengths and barriers/challenges were then shared in a debriefing process which is explained in detail in the summary of findings below.

D. SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

During the Peer Review, peers helped identify strengths and barriers/ challenges, as well as, developing recommendations for future practices for both Child Welfare and Probation. The findings of the Peer Review for Child Welfare and Probation are described below.

1. Child Welfare:

a. Overall strengths

Siskiyou County social workers are very experienced, averaging more than eight years working within the Child Welfare System. The social workers are dedicated to the youth and families that they work with and have a passion to keep children within the community. In addition to the social worker Core training requirements, Siskiyou County social workers have successfully completed specialized trainings such as Child Forensic Interviewing, Drug Endangered Children, and Safety Organized Practice which allow the social worker to identify, assess and meet the needs of the children and families that they work with.

b. Barriers and Challenges:

Although Siskiyou County is dedicated to keeping children within the community, and maintaining family/community relationships, children often experience multiple placements. A contributing factor identified during the PCR is that foster parents in Siskiyou County do not have the experience and knowledge that is needed to manage children with challenging behaviors. Siskiyou County lacks a sufficient number of available foster homes which often results in children being placed outside of the County. This can impact reunification efforts, as parents have limited resources and may not be able to participate in reunification services, such as visitation with their child(ren) due to lack of transportation or time and distance of travel.

c. Case Management and Concurrent Planning:

At the time of detention, Siskiyou County begins the family finding process. Family finding is used throughout the life of the child welfare case to identify relatives for support and potential placements. However, even though relatives are identified as potential placements, due to criminal background or the relative's reluctance to accept placement of the child(ren); the child(ren) are not placed with relatives.

Team meetings which often include the birth family, as well as foster parents, are conducted to help facilitate concurrent planning in child welfare cases. When appropriate,

the County incorporates and includes the birth family and tribal affiliations as part of the concurrent planning process. Not all parents are able to participate in concurrent planning and/or reunification services due to their own personal issues such as maintaining sobriety.

d. Engagement:

In an effort to maintain family relationships and connectedness and in accordance with the court orders social workers arrange for children to have ample visitation with their family. However, siblings are not always placed together and occasionally are placed in different counties. This can be due to the difficult behaviors displayed by a child in a sibling group and the lack of available foster homes in the county able to take large sibling groups. Social workers call all available placement resources in an effort to find a home that will take a sibling group. Social workers will purchase beds, clothing, and food for placement resources in order to facilitate placement. However, at times, placement for more than three children in a home cannot be accomplished. Unfortunately, when siblings are placed at a distance from each other, it creates a barrier which limits visitation between siblings. It also impacts visitation with parents who do not have the resources or ability to attend numerous visits out of county.

Effort is made to conduct social worker visits with the child(ren) in the placement setting. However, due to circumstances outside of the social worker's control, such as the foster parent's personal schedule, these visits may occur at the child's school or during a visit with the birth parent.

e. Assessments and Services:

Social workers are proactive in obtaining assessments and services for children and families. Social workers work closely with the County Office of Education foster care liaison to obtain educational assessments for children needing an Independent Education Program (IEP) and/or speech therapy. Because Child Welfare is co-located with Behavioral Health Services, social workers are better able to coordinate behavioral health services for children and families in a timely manner. However, Behavioral Health staffing issues occasionally cause delay in the initial assessment for services. When children are placed out of county, gaps in services arise as a result of managed care Medi-Cal and the associated billing issues.

f. Placement Matching and Changes:

Birth parents, foster parents and the child(ren) are often involved to find the most suitable placement for the child(ren). Social workers seek out placements that will allow children to remain in their school of origin to minimize the disruption of the child's life. However, Siskiyou County has a limited number of foster homes and as a result sometimes children must be placed out of county. Siskiyou County has one foster family agency (FFA) that has active foster homes with placement availability. Furthermore, some foster placements fail because the foster parents do not have the skill set required to effectively manage children with difficult behaviors. As a result of these failed placements, children may be placed out of county or in outlying areas of the county which require a change in schools.

g. Caretaker Support and Services:

Access to services is often problematic due to the large geographical area of the County. The distance between service providers and foster homes creates barriers for families to access the services that are available within the County. For relative placements, there is relatively little support and training.

h. Overall recommendations of the Peer Reviewers:

The County should develop clear policies and procedures to standardize the expectations of social workers. In order to meet the needs of children being placed with relatives, these relatives need support and training. Specifically relatives need training in the areas of attachment, child development, cognitive behavioral therapy, and Fetal Alcohol Syndrome. It is recommended that a specialized social worker be dedicated to conduct foster home licensing, and relative assessments for home approval and placement. This social worker would be able to provide the needed support to relative placements that caseload carrying social workers are unable to provide due to time constraints.

The lack of foster home availability impacts the County's ability and efforts to maintain children's relationships with their families and community. It is recommended that more homes are licensed and approved for placement including Intensive Treatment Foster Care (ITFC) homes. It was further noted that placing a child in a higher level of care initially may prevent the amount of placements over the life time of the case. In addition, the fewer placements a child must adjust to and overcome, the less the child's life is disrupted.

2. Probation:

a. Overall strengths:

In addition to knowledge of the juvenile justice system, juvenile probation officers are familiar with the child welfare legal system, and Child Welfare Services/Case Management System (CWS/CMS). Probation officers have worked in various positions throughout the County and have built a rapport with youth outside of the juvenile probation setting.

b. Barriers and challenges:

There is a lack of placement resources for youth in the juvenile probation system. This necessitates placing youth out of county and creates barriers to reunification services. Probation lacks a bi-lingual probation officer which creates language barriers when attempting to work with and serve minority families within the community.

c. Maintaining Connections:

Probation strives to find the best possible placement settings for youth. This includes exploring potential placements with parents whose parental rights were previously terminated through the Child Welfare System. It was found that although a parent may not have been able to provide the needed care for a young child, once that child has reached teenage years and the parent has rehabilitated, the parent is able to provide the care and

support that the youth now needs. While Probation strives to keep youth connected with their family, out of county placements often make it difficult to maintain connections and for parents to participate in reunification services.

The probation aide works closely with youth and the probation officers to lend support and assistance. The probation aide makes telephone contact with youth to “check in” and to help the youth adjust to new placement settings. Additionally, the probation aide contacts placement and group homes to assess how the youth is adjusting and coping with the change in placement.

d. Engagement:

Probation includes the parents and youth in team meetings, case planning, and placement decisions. By doing so Probation ensures that the family and youth are informed about decisions and changes that occur. To address language barriers, Probation has developed a working relationship with a bi-lingual Siskiyou County Sheriff Deputy. Probation is able to communicate and engage with Spanish speaking families through this Sheriff Deputy. Many times probation is unable to place youth within the county. The distance from the youth’s home to the placement creates barriers in engagement as families do not have the resources available to travel long distance for visitation and other services that may be available.

e. Assessments and Services:

Probation uses the Positive Achievement Change Tool (PACT) to assess the youth’s risks, needs and achievements. The information gathered from PACT is then used by Probation to inform the youth’s case plan. Probation works closely with the Siskiyou County Office of Education foster care liaison to facilitate IEP assessment, and advocating for smaller classroom settings for youth.

f. Placement Matching:

Probation officers involve youth in placement decisions, and keep the youth informed as to changes in placement decisions. However, often placements are made out of county and are limited by the youth’s behavioral needs.

g. Overall Recommendations of Peer Reviewers:

Probation should update current checklists to include the most recent requirements, such as, monthly visits, AB12 processes and hearing timelines. Probation officers need additional training and support in the areas of Independent Living Program (ILP) services, AB12, Katie A. and Solution Based Interviewing. Probation should work with group homes to ensure accountability and consistent standards of practice.

E. PEER PROMISING PRACTICES

Throughout the Peer Review, peer counties identified Siskiyou County's promising practices, as well as shared promising practices from their county. One promising practice that was identified was that Child Welfare is co-located with Behavioral Health which helps to expedite immediate services and assessments. Another promising practice was that Probation re-examines the biological parent for possible placement, even though parental rights may have been terminated. Probation has also incorporated a drumming circle/performance through the Charlie Byrd Youth Correctional Center (CBYCC) which allows for family engagement. Probation has also incorporated the use of a probation aide to help support and assist probation officers. Both Child Welfare and Probation use Family Finding to identify family members who may offer support to youth as well as potential family placements. Siskiyou County works very well as a team and utilizes a team approach.

In addition to identifying promising practices in Siskiyou County peers also shared promising practices from their own county. Following are the identified promising practices of the peer counties. One peer shared that their county developed a placement specialist social worker. This placement specialist is able to give constant updates on shelter and placement availability, provide relative assessments and orientation. Upon detention of a child, this county holds a meeting with the family to discuss placement options.

Another peer shared that Safety Organized Practice, Safety Circles, and Safety Houses have been used to encourage safety, permanency and reunification. Meetings are facilitated by a foster care liaison with an alcohol and other drugs (AOD) background. Family Mapping is used early in the case to identify support persons and potential placements.

A third peer shared that placing children in a higher level of care initially gives more structure and less need for placement change. This practice may help improve the Outcome Measure for placement stability; however it contradicts the intent of the Welfare and Institutions Code to have the first placement in the lowest level of care.

A fourth peer shared that their county is beginning to certify more relative homes within their county as it was found that relatives are more likely to keep trying and working with difficult youth. Additionally, when children are placed out of county, not only is the child's life disrupted but funding for schools is lost. This county is also in the process of identifying a social worker that specializes in placements.

Finally, the fifth peer shared that their county uses a family care coordinator to facilitate high risk team meetings and to maintain placements. Mental health staff are co-located with child welfare and are available to provide immediate services and assessments, including screening youth under five years old. The county uses Safety Organized Practice along with Ages and Stages screening. This county contracts through a community college to provide kinship care classes.

XIII. Outcome Data Measures

S1.1 NO RECURRENCE OF MALTREATMENT

Definition

Of all children who were victims of a substantiated maltreatment allegation during the selected six-month period, what percent were not victims of another substantiated allegation within the following six months?

Q4 2013 S1.1 No Recurrence of Maltreatment			
Period	Child Welfare	Probation	National Standard
01/01/2013-06/30/2013	84.5	N/A	94.6

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	88.4	91.9	72.4	93.8	84.5
<u>Probation</u>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County has consistently remained below the national standard in this measure. As reflected in the above table, Siskiyou County’s current performance rate of 84.5% falls below the National Standard by 10.1 percentage points. From the fourth quarter in 2012 to the current quarter Siskiyou County has had a significant decrease in performance. It should be noted that in this time frame a family with four children was taken into protective custody after continued domestic violence and substance abuse. These four children constitute one quarter of the total children who had another substantiated allegation. With such a small population the data for Siskiyou County can be greatly skewed when large families enter care.

S2.1 NO MALTREATMENT IN FOSTER CARE

Definition

Of all children served in foster care during the selected 12-month period, what percent did not have a substantiated allegation of abuse or neglect by a foster parent or SCP/residential facility staff member?

Q4 2013 S2.1 No Maltreatment in Foster Care			
Period	Child Welfare	Probation	National Standard
01/01/2013-06/30/2013	100	100	99.68

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	100	100	99.39	100	100
<u>Probation</u>	100	100	100	100	100

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County did not have a reported allegation of abuse or neglect in this time frame, thus doing better than the national standard. While incident reports have been received on children in out of home care, they do not rise to the level of substantiated allegations of abuse or neglect.

The Probation Department has not experienced any substantiated allegations of abuse or neglect on children in out of home care in this reporting period.

C1.1 REUNIFICATION WITHIN 12 MONTHS (EXIT COHORT)

Definition

Of all children exiting foster care to reunification during the selected 12-month period, what percent were reunified in less than 12 months from the date of their latest removal from the home?

Q4 2013 C1.1 Reunification within 12 months (Exit Cohort)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-12/31/2013	78.6	75.2

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	71.2	58.7	75.7	79.5	78.6

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/tuch_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County exceeds the national standard here and has steadily improved on this measure over the past several years. This reflects the emphasis placed on reunification services that are being offered to families. Child welfare has incorporated Family Dependency Treatment Court (FDTC), increased drug testing, substance abuse classes offered through AOD as well as the requirement for parents to attend 12 step programs and Alcoholics/Narcotics Anonymous classes for parents with substance abuse issues. Family Reunification Plans ordered by the Court include parenting classes, alcohol and drug treatment programs, anger management classes and also require parents to attend both individual and group counseling sessions. By ensuring that parents have the support and tools necessary to provide a safe home for their children, the County is able to reunify more families.

C1.2 MEDIAN TIME OF REUNIFICATION (EXIT COHORT)

Definition

Of all children discharged from foster care to reunification during the year who had been in foster care for 8 days or longer, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of latest removal from home until the date of discharge to reunification.

Q4 2013 C1.2 Median Time of Reunification (Exit Cohort)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-12/31/2013	6.8	5.4

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	7.7	8.9	3.0	7.2	6.8

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr-berkeley.edu/uch_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County has shown minimal improvement from 2009 to 2013 consistently falling below the national standard. While the County makes every effort to reunify families as soon as possible family dynamics can impede these efforts. Ongoing domestic violence issues and the inability for parents to obtain and maintain sobriety greatly impact the County's ability to reunify. The County maintains a more conservative approach when returning children to families with substance abuse issues. The County seeks for parents to maintain sobriety over a three to six month time period and demonstrate readiness for their children to be returned. In doing so, the County tries to ensure the safety of the children, but this may negatively reflect on the County's performance in this measure.

C1.3 REUNIFICATION WITHIN 12 MONTHS (ENTRY COHORT)

Definition

Of all children who entered foster care for the first time in the selected six-month period, what percent were discharged to reunification within 12 months of their removal from the home?

Q4 2013 C1.3 Reunification within 12 months (Entry Cohort)			
Period	Child Welfare	Probation	National Standard
07/01/2012-12/31/2012	57.1	0.00	48.4

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	48.7	50.0	45.5	50.0	57.1

<u>Probation</u>	50.0	0.0	50.0	25.0	0.0
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Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr-berkeley.edu/uch_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County exceeds the national standard on this measure. The implementation of Structured Decision Making (SDM) in conjunction with Safety Organized Practice (SOP) has guided social workers in identifying the strengths, challenges and barriers within family units. Social workers are then able to

provide more appropriate referrals and services to parents which impact their ability to reunify earlier. Siskiyou County obtained a grant for a Family Dependency Treatment Court and this allowed the County to work in collaboration with Behavioral Health to address substance abuse related issues. The County has implemented Katie A. and is actively engaging and providing mental health services to children meeting the Katie A. subclass criteria.

The Probation Department did not have children who entered into foster care during this entry cohort reunify within 12 months, but this measure has been emphasized as an important focal point. Due to recent trainings, the probation department has focused on enhanced reunification efforts, including time sensitive case-plans, where dosage and delivery of services in foster care are more closely managed. This ensures that every effort will be reasonably made to return children home as soon it is viable. In order to accomplish this, probation strives to provide appropriate engagement with families even when children are placed long distances away or out-of-state. Probation employs SKYPE to allow family counseling to occur as well as concurrent applicable individual counseling for parents and guardians through therapists contracted with probation.

C1.4 REENTRY FOLLOWING REUNIFICATION

Definition

Of all children exiting foster care to reunification during the selected 12-month period, what percent reentered foster care less than 12 months from the date of discharge?

Q4 2013 C1.4 Reunification within 12 months (Exit Cohort)			
Period	Child Welfare	Probation	National Standard
01/01/2012-12/31/2012	11.6	0.0	9.9

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	10.4	17.7	6.6	13.6	11.6
<u>Probation</u>	12.5	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County has consistently struggled with this outcome, only meeting the national standard in 2011. There are many contributing factors to the County's performance. It should be noted that in the fourth quarter of 2013 the 1.7 differential equates to only one child, which speaks to the small child welfare population of Siskiyou County and how one child can skew the performance data. In an effort to reunify families as soon as possible, temporary stability is achieved. However, the underlying ongoing issues of the family, such as domestic violence and relapse into substance abuse, necessitate the need for intervention. It is also noted that the children that are reentering often have behavioral issues and may act out, compounding the parents' inability to maintain a safe and stable home environment.

The Probation Department did not have any children exiting foster care during this 12 month period and then returning to foster care in less than 12 months after initial discharge.

C2.1 ADOPTION WITHIN 24 MONTHS (EXIT COHORT)

Definition

Of all children who were discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the selected 12-month period, what percent were discharged in less than 24 months from the date of the latest removal from home?

Q4 2013 C2.1 Adoption within 24 Months (Exit Cohort)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-12/31/2013	92.3	36.6

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	13.3	11.0	37.5	72.2	92.3

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lec, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yec, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County far exceeds the national standard on this measure, reflecting the work and close collaboration of State Adoptions staff and child welfare social workers. The adoptions specialist travels to Siskiyou County on a monthly basis to discuss with Child Welfare staff the progress being made in pre-adoption placement cases. Additionally, the adoptions specialist attends law and motion court with the Child Welfare social worker when these cases are calendared. Emphasis has been placed on completing adoptions in a timely fashion since the last SIP and it clearly shows in this measure. The County is monitoring cases more closely with an emphasis on making early referrals to State Adoptions.

C2.2 MEDIAN TIME TO ADOPTION (EXIT COHORT)

Definition

Of all children discharged from foster care to a finalized adoption during the year, what was the median length of stay (in months) from the date of latest removal from home until the date of discharge to adoption?

Q4 2013 C2.2 Time to Adoption (Exit Cohort)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-06/30/2013	20.5	27.3

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	35.7	11.0	26.7	20.4	20.5

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lec, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yec, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County exceeds the national standard on this measure and that has been fairly consistent over the past few years. The County is referring cases to State Adoptions early and holding monthly staffing with State Adoptions. By involving State Adoptions early in the life of the case, the County is able to ensure that when reunification is not possible a permanent placement and adoption is completed promptly.

C2.3 ADOPTION WITHIN 12 MONTHS (17 MONTHS IN CARE)

Definition

Of all children in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer on the first day of the selected 12-month period, what percent were discharged to a finalized adoption within 12 months?

Q4 2013 C2.3 Adoption within 12 Months (17 Months in Care)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-06/30/2013	27.3	22.7

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	26.7	33.0	34.5	35.7	27.3

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County continues to exceed the National Standard in this outcome. This can be largely attributed to the relationship that has been developed between the County and the State Adoptions in conjunction with concurrent planning allowing the County to quickly find permanent and adoptive placements for children who are unable to reunify with their families. The County makes early referrals to State Adoptions and focuses on finalization and permanent placement for children. The County has recently increased the emphasis on assisting State Adoptions to take relinquishments from birth parents in order to reduce barriers to adoption.

C2.4 LEGALLY FREE WITHIN 6 MONTHS (17 MONTHS IN CARE)

Definition

Of all children in foster care for 17 continuous months or longer and not legally free for adoption on the first day of the selected six-month period, what percent became legally free within the following six months?

Q4 2013 C2.4 Legally Free Within 6 Months (17 Months in Care)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-06/30/2013	11.8	10.9

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	6.9	18.0	7.7	17.6	11.8

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

This data set represents a very small number of children in placement. The fluctuating numbers really reflect how one or two children can greatly skew a data set. It should also be noted that this data set consists of a majority of children who, due to behavioral issues, are difficult to place. It can be a challenge to find a permanent family for these children. The Juvenile Court Judge is hesitant to terminate parental rights unless a prospective adoptive home is found and the child is placed there and doing well. The Court does not usually terminate parental rights until the assurance is made that the child will, indeed, be adopted by their

current caretakers. That is why some children are in care for a longer period of time, while an active search is made for a potentially permanent home. The Court will then terminate parental rights upon a reasonable assurance that a legal orphan is not being created.

C2.5 ADOPTION WITHIN 12 MONTHS (LEGALLY FREE)

Definition

Of all children in foster care who became legally free for adoption during the selected 12-month period, what percent were then discharged to a finalized adoption within the following 12 months?

Q4 2013 C2.5 Adoption Within 12 Months (Legally Free)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2012-12/31/2013	66.7	53.7

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	60.0	25.0	60.0	88.2	66.7

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County has consistently met or exceeded this measure, falling below only once as reflected in the above table. The County has developed a strong relationship with State Adoptions with early referrals, consistent staffing and focus on finalization; which has facilitated the prompt adoption of children as they become legally free for adoption. The County and State Adoptions staff make every attempt to place children into pre-adoptive placements so that if the child becomes legally free for adoption they can be adopted by these families.

C3.1 EXIT TO PERMANENCY (24 MONTHS IN CARE)

Definition

Of all children in foster care for 24 months or longer on the first day of the selected 12-month period, what percent were discharged to a permanent home by the end of the 12-month period and prior to their 18th birthday?

Q4 2013 C3.1 Exit to Permanency (24 Months in Care)			
Period	Child Welfare	Probation	National Standard
01/01/2013-12/31/2013	25.0	0.0	29.1

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	27.9	27.6	36.8	31.8	25.0

<u>Probation</u>	0.0	20.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
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Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County has consistently fallen below the national standard in this outcome. Some children in this measure have behavioral issues necessitating placement in group home settings which prevents the County's ability to find a permanent placement. Furthermore, other children in this measure have run away, again preventing the County from finding a permanent placement. At times, youth choose not to be adopted and foster caregivers choose not to become legal guardians. The County acknowledges the youth's right to decline adoptive placement and foster caregiver's right to decline legal guardianship.

The Probation Department did not have any youth in foster care for 24 months or longer for the purpose and time frame of this measurement, but probation is renewing emphasis on the importance of making sure group home programs are designed appropriately for the needs of the child. The department has focused on making sure group homes are in tune with the individualized case-plans of each child with appropriate program lengths to achieve the objectives and goals for the child in a timely manner. Although stability is important, probation is also emphasizing step-down to the lowest required level of foster care as soon as it is viable. In addition, the department has received training that emphasized family findings to enhance permanency with other relatives or non-related family members that would otherwise be left undiscovered.

C3.2 EXITS TO PERMANENCY (LEGALLY FREE AT EXIT)

Definition

Of all children discharged from foster care during the selected 12-month period who were legally free for adoption, how many were discharged to a permanent home prior to their 18th birthday?

Q4 2013 C3.2 Exit to Permanency (Legally Free at Exit)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-12/31/2013	100.0	98.0

Trend	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	85.0	86.7	90.0	100.0	100.0

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County has steadily improved in this area. The County actively uses concurrent planning throughout the life of the Child Welfare case and has developed a close relationship with State Adoptions. This has fostered the County's ability to find permanent, lasting homes for children when parental rights have been terminated and the child is not able to be returned safely to their birth home. It is the philosophy of the Juvenile Court Judge not to terminate parental rights unless there is an identified permanent adoptive home for the child; it is not considered beneficial to the child to be a legal orphan and hope that a permanent home will be found at a later date. There are times when the judge, without terminating parental rights, orders adoption as the permanent plan for a child and will continue the case for six months in order for a permanent home to be found. State Adoptions works tirelessly to find adoptive homes for every child, working with relatives and care providers to ensure that even difficult to place children have a chance to be a permanent part of a "forever family".

C3.3 IN CARE 3 YEARS OR LONGER (EMANCIPATION/ AGE 18)

Definition

Of all children discharged from foster care during the selected 12-month period who were either discharged to emancipation or turned 18 in care, what percent were in care for three years or longer?

Q4 2013 C3.3 In Care 3 Years or Longer (Emancipation/ Age 18)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-12/31/2013	100.0	98.0

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	66.7	71.4	66.7	100.0	100.0

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/uch_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

The youth in this measure are of a very small data set. For the most recent performance in 2013 Siskiyou County had one youth which fell into this data set thereby creating a 100% rate when the youth reached age 18. As stated previously, with such a small population, one or two children can greatly affect the overall data set. Additionally, the County has focused on working with families to develop a safety plan, rather than detaining teenagers. This has resulted in taking fewer teenage youth into care when in the past the County had removed youth to safety immediately, rather than working with families and youth to preserve the family with supportive services in place.

C4.1 PLACEMENT STABILITY (8 DAYS TO 12 MONTHS IN CARE)

Definition

Of all children in foster care during the selected 12-month period who were in care for at least eight days but less than 12 months, what percent had two or fewer placements?

Q4 2013 C4.1 Placement Stability (8 Days to 12 Months in Care)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-12/31/2013	76.9	86

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	84.2	87.0	84.0	84.5	76.9

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/uch_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

This measure was chosen as our focus during our Peer Review, since we are lower than the national standard. The lack of foster homes in the county is a factor in this measure, social workers needing to place a child must place with the one foster family agency accepting placements or place out of county. There are not enough homes to meet the need and usually it is not possible to match the child to a “best possible” placement. Social workers do an excellent job of seeking out relative and non-related extended family member placements, but it can take time, especially if the relatives live out of the area. If a child is temporarily placed with a foster family agency or out of county and a home that would be a better fit for

that child/family becomes available, the child is moved. If a relative is approved, the child would be moved again. The County does not have a shelter for emergency placements, so children who are placed in protective custody are placed with a foster family agency on a temporary basis. These temporary placements may turn into a long term placement, but often the child may need to be moved due to the factors listed above.

C4.2 PLACEMENT STABILITY (12 MONTHS TO 24 MONTHS IN CARE)

Definition

Of all children in foster care during the selected 12-month period who were in care for at least 12 months but less than 24 months, what percent had two or fewer placements?

Q4 2013 C4.2 Placement Stability (12 Months to 24 Months in Care)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-12/31/2013	45.7	65.4

Trend	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	48.7	70.6	29.0	57.9	45.7

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

The analysis offered for C4.1 largely applies to this measure, as well. This is clearly an area that needs to be explored further in the System Improvement Plan. As discussed during the Peer Review, foster parents do not always have the skill set necessary to maintain placement for children with serious behavioral issues. In an effort to maintain placement stability the County will seek ways in which foster parents, and relative caregivers can gain training and support to better handle these difficult behavioral issues. Sometimes, children develop difficult behaviors the longer they are in care (they may become comfortable enough to start expressing rage and grief), however this may cause them to be moved if the care providers are not prepared to deal with these difficult behaviors.

C4.3 PLACEMENT STABILITY (AT LEAST 24 MONTHS IN CARE)

Definition

Of all children in foster care during the selected 12-month period who were in care for at least 24 months, what percent had two or fewer placements?

Q4 2013 C4.3 Placement Stability (At Least 24 Months in Care)		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
01/01/2013-12/31/2013	27.3	41.8

Trend	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	25.5	32.4	39.0	41.4	27.3

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

The analysis offered for measures C 4.1 and C4.2 apply to this measure as well. These children were not able to be returned to their families. It could be that their mental health issues, behavioral issues and poor placement matching initially contributed to the need to move them to new homes. When children are first in care and visiting their parents regularly, they are more hopeful that they will go home. If/when reunification services are terminated, they often become frustrated and despondent, exhibit more behavioral issues and push beyond acceptable boundaries which then results in more placement changes.

2B PERCENT OF CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REFERRALS WITH A TIMELY RESPONSE

Definition

During the selected 3-month period, what percent of immediate and ten-day child abuse/neglect referrals received a timely response?

2B Percent of Child Abuse/Neglect Referrals with a Timely Response				
Period	Siskiyou		National Standard	
	Immediate Response	Ten-Day Response	Immediate Response	Ten-Day Response
Q4 2013 (10/01/13-12/31/13)	89.5	93.3	90	90
Q4 2012	94.7	91.7	90	90
Q4 2011	96.8	96.7	90	90
Q4 2010	100	93.8	95	95
Q4 2009	100	95	95	95

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://csr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

The County usually meets the national standard in this outcome, falling below only once in each measure as reflected in the above table. Child welfare has experienced multiple personnel changes as experienced social workers leave the agency and new social workers are hired requiring training and lacking the ability to perform and make the decisions of an experienced social worker. From the period of 2009 to 2014, one experienced social worker was promoted to a social worker supervisor, two experienced social workers resigned and one experienced social worker transferred from Child Welfare to Adult Services. In 2013, the County hired two social workers for the emergency response unit. These social workers were frequently unavailable for referral assignments when they were in Core training. This left the majority of referrals during these periods to be assigned to two social workers for investigation. Even with the ever evolving dynamics of the workforce, the County strives to respond timely to all referrals received.

2F TIMELY CASEWORKER VISITS WITH CHILDREN

Definition

Of all completed contacts, how many occurred in the client's residence? At least 50% of contacts must occur in the client's residence.

2F Timely Caseworker Visits with Children				
Period	Siskiyou		National Standard	
	Timely Monthly Caseworker Visits	Visits in Residence	Timely Monthly Caseworker Visits	Visits in Residence
Q4 2013	84.8	79.6	90	50
Q4 2012	85.3	75.6	90	50
Q4 2011	80.9	74.6	90	50
Q4 2010	84.6	52.7	90	50
Q4 2009	77.1	46.0	90	50

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

The County has consistently fallen below the national standard in timely monthly caseworker visits, although there has been progress made in the number of visits taking place in the child's residence. The County has faced multiple challenges such as distance to out of county or out of state placements and staffing shortages which have negatively impacted the ability to meet the national standard in this measure. This measure will be included as part of the upcoming System Improvement Plan.

As of December 2013, the County had 108 children in placement, of which 47 or 43.5% were placed 11 miles or more away from their removal home. Of these 47 cases, 18 placements are between 14 and 39 miles away, 8 placements are between 40 and 59 miles away, 7 placements are between 60 and 79 miles away, 4 placements are between 80 and 99 miles away, 4 placements are over 100 miles away, 4 placements are over 200 miles away, 1 placement is 359 miles away and 1 placement is 403 miles away. This information was retrieved from SafeMeasures®, Open Placements Distance from Removal Home on July 30, 2014 https://app.safemeasures.org/ca/plcmt_dist_from_rmvl

Additionally, in December 2013 it was discovered that the County had incorrectly entered six non-dependent legal guardianship cases into CWS/CMS. The "legal authority" and "placement type" did not accurately reflect the cases' non-dependent status. This error caused the cases to reflect a monthly visitation requirement as opposed to the six month visitation requirement and thereby negatively reflected on the County's performance in this measure. The County corrected this error in January 2014 and in the future will monitor this measure to ensure monthly social worker visits occur in a timely manner. It is also noted that a number of children have run away from placement. The County is unable to locate and make monthly visits with the children who have run away from placement.

4A SIBLINGS PLACED TOGETHER IN FOSTER CARE

Definition

Of all children with siblings in placement on the designated date, how many were placed with all of their siblings and how many were placed with some or all of their siblings?

4A Siblings Placed Together in Foster Care				
Period	Siskiyou		National Standard	
	Siblings All	Siblings All or Some	Siblings All	Siblings All or Some
Q4 2013	41.5	73.8	N/A	N/A
Q4 2012	61.5	80.8	N/A	N/A
Q4 2011	68	78	N/A	N/A
Q4 2010	45.3	58.5	N/A	N/A
Q4 2009	54.9	60.6	N/A	N/A

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

Siskiyou County makes every attempt to place siblings together. However, the County has a limited number of placements that are suitable for large sibling groups. It is more feasible to place two siblings together, but three siblings and up is very problematic. There are few local placement settings that are large enough to receive a group of three or more children. Behavioral issues that some of the children exhibit also make it difficult to keep all siblings in one placement due to foster parent limitations. The County has provided fences around ponds, barriers around wood stoves, baby gates for stairways, beds, clothing and other items a relative or NREFM needs to have to make placement possible for sibling groups.

4B LEAST RESTRICTIVE PLACEMENT (ENTRIES FIRST PLACEMENT)

Definition

Of all children entering placement within a 12-month period beginning with the selected quarter, what was the first placement facility type?

4B Least Restrictive Placement (Entries First Placement)					
Period	Siskiyou				
	Relative	Foster Home	FFA	Group/Shelter	Other
Q4 2013	22.4	2.4	69.4	2.4	3.5
Q4 2012	18.1	0.0	73.6	0.0	8.3
Q4 2011	8.9	2.5	81	2.5	5.1
Q4 2010	24.1	0.0	72.4	0.0	3.4
Q4 2009	14.3	0.0	74.7	1.1	9.9

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

It is apparent that the first placement is usually in an FFA, although initial relative placement numbers are up over the past two years. The County agrees that the preferred placement is with a relative. However, during the initial phases of the case it is not always possible to make the first placement with a relative. The criminal background of relatives or their inability to provide suitable appropriate care may prevent the County from making a relative placement. Additionally, the birth family may be uncooperative in providing accurate family member or non-related extended family members (NREFM) information for potential placement, especially initially in the case.

4B LEAST RESTRICTIVE PLACEMENT (POINT IN TIME)

Definition

What is the distribution of open placement types within a 12-month period beginning with the selected quarter?

4B Least Restrictive Placement (Point in Time)					
Period	Siskiyou				
	Relative	Foster Home	FFA	Group/Shelter	Other
Q4 2013	28.6	2.5	47.9	3.4	17.6
Q4 2012	28.7	1.1	48.9	4.3	17.0
Q4 2011	28.6	5.1	43.9	3.1	19.4
Q4 2010	33.7	1.1	39.1	3.3	22.8
Q4 2009	24.8	0.8	48.8	5.8	19.8

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssi.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

While FFA placement remains the highest placement type, relative placements and guardianship placements which fall under the “other” category have remained stable over time and are consistently higher later in the case or as the case progresses. Relatives are not always willing or able to have children placed with them and this limits the County’s ability to make relative placements. The County strives to place children in the lowest level of care and only when absolutely necessary for the safety of the child is a group home placement made.

4E ICWA & MULTI-ETHNIC PLACEMENT STATUS

Definition

What is the placement status of Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) and Multi-Ethnic Placement Act (MEPA) eligible children in placement on a designated date?

4E ICWA & MEPA Placement Status												
Period	Siskiyou											
	ICWA						MEPA					
	Relatives	Non Relative, Indian SCPs	Non Relative, Non Indian SCPs	Non Relative, SCP Ethnic Missing	Group Homes	Other	Relatives	Non Relative, Indian SCPs	Non Relative, Non Indian SCPs	Non Relative, SCP Ethnic Missing	Group Homes	Other
January 1, 2014	0	3	2	1	0	0	7	4	3	1	0	3
January 1, 2013	3	3	4	1	1	0	5	3	6	1	1	0
January 1, 2012	3	2	5	2	0	0	3	2	4	4	0	1
January 1, 2011	5	4	5	1	0	0	10	4	5	1	0	0
January 1, 2010	5	5	4	0	1	0	4	5	6	0	2	0

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

As reflected in the table above, the County, in conjunction with the child's tribe, makes every effort to place with relatives first. When this is not possible, the County places ICWA and MEPA eligible children in placement settings that are the most appropriate. The County acknowledges that while it is preferred to place children into placement settings that align with their cultural identification, it is not always possible.

5B (1) RATE OF TIMELY HEALTH EXAMS

Definition

What percent of children in care during the selected 3-month period received health examinations in compliance with the periodicity table?

Q4 2013 5B(1) Rate of Timely Health Exams		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
10/01/2013-12/31/2013	83.5	N/A

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	95.0	86.1	96.2	97.1	83.5

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

The child welfare nurse case assistant monitors and tracks health exams for children in care. It can be difficult for the nurse case assistant to obtain information from non-related extended family member (NREFM), group home, and adoptive placements. Particularly with NREFM and adoptive placements, care

providers view these children as their own and can be unwilling to provide information regarding health exams to the County. The nurse case assistant works with health care providers to obtain the information, however not all providers are willing to release records without a release of information regardless of the County's current court order. The nurse case assistant works with the social workers to obtain information regarding health exams from the care providers. Often the social worker has built a better rapport with the care giver and is able to obtain the information when the nurse case assistant is not. The County cannot mandate medical providers to cooperate with requests for information.

5B (2) RATE OF TIMELY DENTAL EXAMS

Definition

What percent of children in care during the selected 3-month period received dental examinations in compliance with the periodicity table?

Q4 2013 5B(2) Rate of Timely Dental Exams		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
10/01/2013-12/31/2013	43.1	N/A

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	62.0	58.6	75.0	65.2	43.1

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://csr.berkeley.edu/uch_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

There is a serious lack of dentists in Siskiyou County who will accept Medi-Cal patients. This was an issue during our last System Improvement Plan and has continued to this date. The low Medi-Cal reimbursement rate for dentists is a disincentive to want to see foster children, many of whom missed appointments when they were in the care of their parents. Children coming into foster care often have very poor dental health and issues such as severe decay. Local dentists will not see these children as too much dental work needs to be completed, and the reimbursement rate is too low. Child Welfare first must take these children to a provider in Shasta County. Once seen at this provider a referral is made to a pedodontist in either Atwater or Stockton California. This is over 363 miles away from Siskiyou County. In 2013, the County had one dental provider who was providing services to Medi-Cal patients. With only one Medi-Cal provider in the county, wait lists were very long and often the provider placed a limit to the amount of Medi-Cal recipients that would be accepted as patients. Compounding the issue is the fact that Medi-Cal patients must obtain Treatment Authorization Requests (TAR) prior to services being delivered. The TAR process is very lengthy and often providers must show justification as to why the treatment is necessary. The combination of these factors makes it very difficult for children in Siskiyou County to receive the dental care that they need in a timely manner.

5F PSYCHOTROPIC MEDICATIONS

Definition

What percent of children in foster care have a court order or parental consent that authorizes the child to receive psychotropic medication?

Q4 2013 5F Psychotropic Medications		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
10/01/2013-12/31/2013	18.1	N/A

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	13.3	16.8	12.6	15.0	18.1

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssf.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

The increase in the number of children on psychotropic medications is concerning, to child welfare staff as well as the Juvenile Court Judge. In 2011 and 2012 the percentage of children in Siskiyou County on psychotropic medication correlated with children throughout California. However, in 2013 Siskiyou County exceeds California's rate by 6 percentage points. There are increasing numbers of children coming into care already taking psychotropic medications the County, the Juvenile Court Judge and Behavioral Health have had discussions over concerns and are developing strategies to communicate effectively. Children raised in chaotic and abusive households develop behaviors that are difficult to manage and can require medication to help them cope and maintain appropriate behaviors. The County will partner with and engage medical providers during the upcoming System Improvement Plan to address concerns in this outcome measure.

6B INDIVIDUALIZED EDUCATION PLAN

Definition

What percent of children in foster care have ever had an Individualized Education Plan (IEP)?

Q4 2013 6B Individualized Education Plan		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
10/01/2013-12/31/2013	6.8	N/A

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	15.6	12.4	13.0	11.1	6.8

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssf.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

This number has trended downwards. It is possible that schools are working more successfully with children, providing them with the appropriate services to bring them within the norm, thereby reducing the need for an Individualized Education Plan. It is also possible that this data has not been consistently captured in CWS/CMS. This area will be assessed for possible data entry errors and/or missing information. If a

child moves to Siskiyou County from another state, it can be difficult to access educational records. As mentioned previously in the Political Jurisdiction and Agency Collaboration sections of this CSA, the County has a close working relationship with the Office of Education. Social workers and the nurse case assistant work with the foster care liaison to facilitate and advocate for smaller class room settings, tutoring and speech therapy.

8A COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL EQUIVALENCY

Definition

Outcome for youth who exited foster care placement due to attaining age 18 or 19, or those foster youth under age 10 who were legally emancipated from foster care pursuant to Family Code Section 7000 and obtained high school equivalency.

8A Completed High School Equivalency		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
10/01/2013-12/31/2013	0.0	N/A

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	50.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://csr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

The data in the above table does not reflect the data reported on the Exit Outcomes for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care Quarterly Statistical Report (SOC 405E). As indicated on the SOC 405E during the fourth quarter of 2013 Siskiyou County had one probation youth that received a High School diploma. During the fourth quarter of 2012 Siskiyou County reported one non-dependent legal guardian youth received a High School diploma. In the fourth quarter of 2011 Siskiyou County reported one non-dependent legal guardian youth received a High School diploma. It should be noted that, Siskiyou County continues to offer ILP services to AB12 youth who will not be counted in this data measure until they have exited foster care. There is a data lag created by circumstances outside of the County’s control. The County submits the SOC 405E to CDSS, in turn CDSS then enters in the County’s data, and this information would then be pulled for the Dynamic Reports created by U.C. Berkley. When CDSS enters the reported youth impacts the County’s performance in this measure.

Retrieved 5/23/14, from the California Department of Social Services at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/research/PG1940.htm>

8A OBTAINED EMPLOYMENT

Definition

Outcome for youth who exited foster care placement due to attaining age 18 or 19, or those foster youth under age 10 who were legally emancipated from foster care pursuant to Family Code Section 7000 and obtained employment.

8A Obtained Employment		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
10/01/2013-12/31/2013	0.0	N/A

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	0.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://csr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

As reported on the SOC 405E, Siskiyou County reported no youth with employment for the fourth quarters in 2011 and 2013. However, Siskiyou County did report one non-dependent legal guardian youth who had obtained at least half time employment in the fourth quarter of 2012. The lack of youth obtaining employment is indicative of the depressed economy in Siskiyou County. There are limited opportunities for youth with little to no work experience to obtain employment. Furthermore, this measure does not reflect AB12 youth that are being served. These youth will be counted once they have exited foster care. As stated under 8A, this measure is impacted by the data lag between the County reporting to CDSS, CDSS entering the reported data and Berkeley creating the Dynamic reports.

Retrieved 5/23/14, from the California Department of Social Services at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/research/PG1940.htm>

8A HOUSING ARRANGEMENTS

Definition

Outcome for youth who exited foster care placement due to attaining age 18 or 19, or those foster youth under age 10 who were legally emancipated from foster care pursuant to Family Code Section 7000 and had housing arrangements.

8A Housing Arrangements		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
10/01/2013-12/31/2013	0.0	N/A

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://csr.berkeley.edu/ucb_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

As reported on the SOC 405E in the fourth quarter of 2013, Siskiyou County reported one probation youth living rent free and one probation youth living rent free with a birth parent. In the fourth quarter of 2012, Siskiyou County reported two non-dependent legal guardian youth living rent free. In the fourth quarter of 2011, Siskiyou County reported one non-dependent legal guardian youth paying rent, and one non-dependent legal guardian youth sharing rent expenses with a parent. As with the previous 8A outcomes, this outcome does not reflect the AB12 youth and is impacted by the data lag between the County, CDSS and Dynamic reporting.

Retrieved 5/23/14, from the California Department of Social Services at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/research/PG1940.htm>

8A RECEIVED ILP SERVICES

Definition

Outcome for youth who exited foster care placement due to attaining age 18 or 19, or those foster youth under age 10 who were legally emancipated from foster care pursuant to Family Code Section 7000 and received ILP services.

8A Received ILP Services		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
10/01/2013-12/31/2013	0.0	N/A

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssf.berkeley.edu/uchc_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

As reported on the SOC 405E during the fourth quarter of 2013 Siskiyou County reported no youth receiving ILP services. During the fourth quarters of 2012 and 2011 Siskiyou County reported one non-dependent legal guardian youth received ILP services. As with the previous 8A outcomes, this outcome does not reflect the AB12 youth and is impacted by the data lag between the County, CDSS and Dynamic reporting.

Retrieved 5/23/14, from the California Department of Social Services at <http://www.cdss.ca.gov/research/PG1940.htm>

8A PERMANENCY CONNECTION WITH AN ADULT

Definition

Outcome for youth who exited foster care placement due to attaining age 18 or 19, or those foster youth under age 10 who were legally emancipated from foster care pursuant to Family Code Section 7000 and obtained a permanent connection with an adult.

8A Permanency Connection with an Adult		
Period	Siskiyou	National Standard
10/01/2013-12/31/2013	0.0	N/A

<u>Trend</u>	Q4 2009	Q4 2010	Q4 2011	Q4 2012	Q4 2013
	100.0	100.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Citation: Needell, B., Webster, D., Armijo, M., Lee, S., Dawson, W., Magruder, J., Exel, M., Cuccaro-Alamin, S., Putnam-Hornstein, E., Sandoval, A., Yee, H., Mason, F., Benton, C., Lou, C., Peng, C., King, B., & Lawson, J. (2014). *CCWIP reports*. Retrieved 5/02/2014, from University of California at Berkeley California Child Welfare Indicators Project website. URL: http://cssr.berkeley.edu/tub_childwelfare

ANALYSIS

As reported on the SOC 405E during the fourth quarter of 2013 Siskiyou County reported one probation youth with a permanent adult connection. For the fourth quarters of 2012 and 2012, Siskiyou County reported one non-dependent legal guardian youth with a permanent adult connection. As with the previous 8A outcomes, this outcome does not reflect the AB12 youth and is impacted by the data lag between the County, CDSS and Dynamic reporting.

XIV. Summary of Findings

Poverty, unemployment, isolation, methamphetamine use/sales/production, family violence, and mental health issues all put children and families at risk of abuse and neglect. Of the Petitions filed with the Juvenile Court during the period from January 2014 through June 2014, 93% contain allegations involving methamphetamine use, sales or both. Siskiyou County's largest number of substantiated allegations stem from general neglect. The data supports focusing on the need for caregiver support and education. Support services to parents are currently being offered through the CAPIT funded Differential Response Program and other services provided through the Community/Family Resource Center network. Child Welfare Data (Chart C), shows that the highest number of allegations and the highest percentage of substantiated allegations is in the under one year old age group. Working closely with Public Health and medical providers to develop or more fully implement programs to target pregnant women will also be considered.

With few local foster homes available, social workers sometimes need to place children out of their community and away from natural supports. Child Welfare staff recently had difficulty finding a home for an infant, which is extremely unusual. For years, there was another foster family agency (FFA) in Siskiyou County but in recent years they left the county because they did not have enough foster homes and/or placements to maintain an office in Siskiyou County. Perhaps the loss of one FFA is a factor in the number of available homes, but it is also possible that there is simply a lack of qualified foster care providers or even potential foster care providers in Siskiyou County. Siskiyou County does not have a large population of families willing and able to take children into their homes and provide the kind of care these children need to be successful. In Siskiyou County it is commonplace for two adults in a home to work full time in order to provide food, clothing and shelter for themselves and their children.

The County Peers identified support for caregivers as an unmet need. Specialized training in the areas of attachment, child development, cognitive behavioral therapy and fetal alcohol syndrome was recommended. It is possible this lack of support and specialized training for foster/kin caregivers affects the number of times a child is moved and in turn impacts placement stability. This area will be explored further during the development of the System Improvement Plan.

Two themes that emerged during the County Self Assessment process that will be factored into the next System Improvement Plan are the need for increased parent engagement and caregiver support. While services, such as counseling and parenting classes, are provided to parents to assist them with reunification, more needs to be done to engage them in the process. A parent orientation group, such as those provided in Lake and Mendocino County, for parents entering dependency proceedings may increase parent participation early in the process. Parent partners might be helpful in mentoring newer parents. It has always been difficult to engage parent partners, but this will be a goal in the next SIP. Care providers, whether connected to foster family agencies or as relatives and NREFMs, have indicated a need for support and training. The College of the Siskiyous' Foster Kinship Care Education Program has a lending library, provides Foster Pride and other classes, will tailor classes to individual needs, and can be supportive to care providers. It became apparent during this assessment process that either care providers are not fully aware of the program or there is something preventing them from taking advantage of the services offered. During the System Improvement Plan process, this issue will need to be addressed.

Safety Organized Practice (SOP), which is currently only used by some social workers, will be implemented by all social workers throughout all stages of the case. Social workers recently participated in a three day foundational SOP training facilitated by U.C. Davis and were joined by family service workers from the FRC/CRCs who are providing differential response services through CAPIT funding. The training was well received and plans were made for regular meetings with staff so that the expectations of the workers can be clarified and the families can receive consistent direction. Safety Organized Practice is a solution based approach. Social workers will use this approach to work with families building understanding and agreement about the level of safety, risk in the family. Working as a team, a plan is developed around what needs to happen within the family to enhance safety for children. Care is taken to listen to the family's voice, including the children, acknowledging what is going well in the family as well as safety concerns. Safety plans can be developed to include community members, as well as relatives, to make sure children are safe in their community.

Siskiyou County is a beautiful place to live and raise children. While there are challenges due to poverty and geography, there is also a community of dedicated service providers throughout the county who are willing and able to offer help to those in need. As we move forward to the System Improvement Plan, we will call upon the cooperation of all the agencies outlined in this report to improve the safety and security of children in this county. Children remaining with their families, as well as children removed to safety, will benefit from the coordination of services countywide. Our goal is that the increased focus on services for caregivers, as well as the full implementation of Safety Organized Practice, will improve the quality of life for families in Siskiyou County in the future.

Siskiyou County Service Array

Siskiyou County Service Array

Family and Community Resource Centers are not included in this array because they are addressed separately in the Self-Assessment and their brochure listing their services and activities is included as an attachment.

Agency	Services Offered
Adoptions (State of California)	Assistance with court process to free children from parental custody and to finalize adoption Information & Referral Assessment of adoptability Recruitment of adoptive families Certification of placement homes Adoptive placement Designated relinquishments Independent adoption services ICPC adoption services Post adoption services

Agency	Services Offered
Behavioral Health Services	<p>Children's System of Care (CSOC)</p> <p>24 Hour Crisis Services / acute hospitalizations</p> <p>Child and adolescent outpatient services at CSOC and with Organizational Providers (Remi Vista, Northern Valley Catholic Social Services, Siskiyou County Office of Education)</p> <p>Katie A. services</p> <p>Juvenile Hall Counseling: crisis services as needed and work collaboratively with HealTherapy regarding discharge planning for youth exiting the hall who will be coming into services at Behavioral Health</p> <p>Therapeutic Behavioral Services (through a contract with Remi Vista)</p> <p>Medi-Cal Wraparound (through a contract with NVCSS)</p> <p>Full Services Partnerships for children who meet specific criteria (a 'whatever it takes' approach to providing an array of services for children to maintain them in their communities and avoid higher levels of care)</p> <p>Prevention services under Prevention and Early Intervention funding from the Mental Health Services Act program through contract with the FRCs.</p> <p>RCL 13/14 Group Home placement monitoring</p> <p>Alcohol/Other Drug Addiction</p> <p>Prevention</p> <p>Treatment</p> <p>Assessment</p> <p>SACPA (Prop 36) services/Intensive Outpatient Provide Intensive Outpatient services, but not under Prop 36</p> <p>Adult/Juvenile/Family Drug Courts</p> <p>Perinatal services/Next Step Intensive Outpatient</p> <p>Detox/Residential</p> <p>Counseling</p> <p>Drug diversion</p> <p>Relapse prevention</p>

	Prevention education LifeWORKs
Child Care Planning Council	Early Childhood Services (educational, health, social services) Child care facilities Even Start (family literacy project) Early Head Start Early Start Infant Program Child care providers: Family child care homes License exempt providers Child care centers Karuk Head Start Shasta Head Start Office of Education Special Day classes State Preschools Anna's House – Weed Mountain View Early Head Start County data analysis and profile
Children First, FFA	Certification of foster family homes Placement for children 0-18 Family Support Group Emergency Response 24 hours a day Weekly visits of foster children and foster parents Supervised visitation services Transportation for out of county services for placements within the agency
College of the Siskiyous	Discovery Children's Center (preschool program/child care) Early Discovery Center for toddlers After-school program Childcare grants to help students in CalWORKs/Job Retention Foster/Kinship Care Education (FKCE) Program
County Library	Public Access to the Internet Lending library Preschool Story Hours (Mt. Shasta)
Environmental Alternatives FFA	Certification of foster family homes Group home program
Family Court Services	Parent Orientation Program Mediation Services (child custody and visitation) Dependency Mediation Family Law Referral Service Family Law/Self-Help and Small Claims Clinics Child care voucher payments available for court customers during clinics, court or mediation

Great Northern Corporation	Assists individuals who are income-eligible with expense of heating oil, electric bill, propane, or wood. Assembles food commodities for income-eligible individuals
HealTherapy, Inc. (Through the ANAV holistic health center, Quartz Valley Rancheria)	Equine Facilitated Psychotherapy (ages 4-18) Individual Therapy Experiential Learning Collateral services to families of child clients
HHSA Social Services Division	<p>Adult and Children's Services</p> <p>24/7 Child Abuse Hotline Emergency Response Family Maintenance Foster Care Services Dependency Court Services Family Reunification Permanency Planning Independent Living Skills Program Adult Protective Services In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) Counseling/Individual and Group Work/Drug & Alcohol through The H.I.R.E. program</p> <p>Employment & Temporary Assistance (ETAS)</p> <p>CA Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Welfare-to-Work (WTW) Medi-Cal County Medical Services Program (CMSP) General Assistance CalFresh Program CalWORKs Counseling Services (H.I.R.E)</p>
Jefferson Economic Development Institute	Business development training and consulting Financial awareness and consulting Free tax preparation for low income families Business assistance to SSDI and vocation rehabilitation

Karuk Tribe	<p>Indian Child Welfare Services Three Medical Clinics Two Dental Clinics Mental Health Services Drug and Alcohol Treatment Domestic Violence Classes Senior Nutrition Program Elders Program Social Services Legal Services for tribal members Tribal Court Paths to Prosperity People's Center Tribal Education Cultural Classes</p>
Northern Valley Catholic Social Services (NVCSS)	<p>Counseling Early Childhood Mental Health Program Medi-Cal Wraparound Volunteer Services Adopt-A-Family</p>
Office of Education	<p>K-12 Education Teen Pregnancy and Parenting Program Early Head Start Early Start Infant Program State Preschool Siskiyou Afterschool for Everyone (SAFE) HIV/STD Prevention Education Program Tobacco education and peer education programs, cessation programs, Brief Intervention Program Health education Vision, hearing, dental, scoliosis screening Health appraisals Student health counseling Specialty Mental Health Services School Crisis Response Developing and monitoring care plans for students with chronic and acute medical problems in the school Supervised medication administration at schools CPR/First Aid Certification Disease Prevention programs School Attendance Review Boards Family/Student Support Teams SELPA (Special Education Local Plan Area) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child Find (a program to identify and assist parents of children with disabilities, including infants, and children whose primary language is not English) </p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Special Education ● Individualized Education Program (IEP) ● SED Program
Probation Department	<p>CBYCC Full Commitment Program (90-180 days in det. center) Lightening Program (60-90 days in detention center) HIV /STD education and training Juvenile Drug Court Anger Management Character Counts Art Therapy Culinary Art Program Small engine repair instruction Domestic Violence Awareness Drug and Alcohol Counseling Drug and Alcohol Awareness Training Year round school program, Siskiyou Co. Office of Education Full complement of special education services – ED plans Nurturing Parenting with Adolescents Teen Parent Classes Individual counseling and family therapy Truancy Abatement Program Intensive supervision program including electronic monitoring Alcohol monitoring and GPS monitoring based on risk and need Support groups Full risk and needs assessment utilizing YLS-CMI</p>
Public Health	<p>Educational brochures California Children Services (CCS) CHDP and CHDP for children in foster care SIDS program Tobacco Education Project (incl. smokers and chewers hotline) Immunization and TB testing HIV tests and support services Sexually transmitted disease tests Maternal and Child Health Program Emergency Preparedness</p>
Quartz Valley Indian Reservation	<p>Health Care</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● ANAV Clinic ● Dental services (future) ● Contract Health ● Transportation (limited) <p>Indian Child Welfare Act (ICWA) services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Social Services ● Individualized services birth to death ● Wellbriety ● LIHEAP

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Commodities from Hoopa Valley Indian Reservation ● Transportation ● Referral services <p>EPA Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tutoring ● Tracking & assistance with IEPs ● Advocacy with parents/schools ● Higher education ● Vocational training ● Work assistance <p>Child Care Hardship Funds Housing Support Services Recreation/fitness/health programs</p>
<p>Remi Vista, Inc. FFA</p>	<p>Certification of foster family homes Foster care placement for children 0-18 years Therapeutic Behavioral Services / Rehabilitation Services Covenant Counseling Center (Mt. Shasta) Six Rivers Counseling (sliding scale) Specialty Mental Health Services (school-based, TBS - MediCal) Transitional Housing Placement Program (THPP) First Five Siskiyou/Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation</p>
<p>Shasta Head Start</p>	<p>Program Options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Infant/Toddler Center ● Preschool ● Child Care ● Home-based ● Family Child Care <p>Early Education Family Support (case management and peer support) Parent Education Services for pregnant and post-partum women Comprehensive health services: mental health, nutrition, dental Child care Special education Curriculum:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Creative ● Anti-bias ● Second step <p>Child Outcomes Project Transportation Disabilities Specialist</p>

Siskiyou Domestic Violence & Crisis Center (SDV&CC)	24 hr. hot line/crisis response Emergency shelter Legal advocacy Legal assistance Household establishment assistance Training for professionals Violence prevention education to school children Public presentations to community groups Sexual assault services, including advocacy and counseling Self defense training for women Support groups Limited transportation funds
Siskiyou Child Care Council (SCCC)	Child Care Payment Assistance Resource and Referral Child Care Center
Superior Court	Family Dependency Treatment Court Juvenile Drug and Alcohol Court Dependency Mediation Domestic Violence Task Force Brochures on court process
Victim Witness Assistance	Crisis intervention, including immediate crisis counseling Preparation and support for court appearances Crime prevention education and information Emergency assistance referrals to appropriate agencies Court support Orientation to the Criminal Justice System Recovery of losses and expenses (compensation) Recovery of property held as evidence Advocacy and support during law enforcement interviews Victim Of Crime claims
Workforce Connection	Job board postings Job search assistance Interview preparation skills Computer lab Internet access Fax & copier services Job search phone access Unemployment Insurance information Career Guidance Math & reading skills training Certified keyboarding testing Software tutorials Labor market information Community information & referrals Employer recruitments

Siskiyou Family and Community Resource Centers Activity & Workshop Calendar MAY 2014 (Part 1)

ACTIVITY / WORKSHOP	DATE(S)	TIME	DAY(S) of WEEK	LOCATION
Chronic Disease Self-Management Class	04/30 - 06/04	5:30 - 8:00	W	Mt. Shasta CRC
Senior Exercise (every M & TH)	05/01 - 05/29	8:30 - 9:30	M, TH	Tulelake/Newell FRC
Veteran Benefits Services	1, 15	9:00 - 3:00	TH	Mt. Shasta CRC
Communities NOW—Connecting for Kids	1, 21	9:00 - 4:00	T, W	Yreka CRC
WIC (Women & Infant Children)	1	10:00 - 12:00	TH	Fort Jones Community Center
Pinochle (for Seniors + Free Lunch)	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	10:00 - 12:00	TH	Tulelake/Newell FRC
Empowerment through Arts	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	11:00 - 1:00	TH	Scott Valley FRC, Fort Jones
Family Story Time (ages 0-5 years)	1, 8, 15, 22, 29	1:00 - 1:30	TH	Etna Library
NEW! Preparing for College	1, 15	6:30 - 7:30	TH	Mt. Shasta CRC
Dad's Basketball (every TH & SU)	05/01 - 05/31	6:30 - 8:30	TH, SU	Tulelake/Newell FRC
Small Blessings Play Day	2	9:00 - 10:30	T	Tulelake/Newell FRC
Story-time, Craft & Movement Activities	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	8:30 - 9:00	F	Etna Pre-School
Story-time, Craft & Movement Activities	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	TBA	F	Fort Jones, Koinonia Pre-School
Creative Journaling & Art	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	9:00 - 11:00	F	Scott River High School, Etna
Mental Health Services (by appointment)	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	9:00 - 3:00	F	Scott Valley FRC
NEW! Writer's Group	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	10:30 - 11:30	F	Yreka CRC
Tai Chi	2, 9, 16, 23, 30	1:00 - 3:00	F	HUB CFRC, Montague
Cooking Classes for Kids	2	3:00 - 4:30	F	Yreka CRC
Bingo Is Back at the Honker!	2, 16	6:00 - 8:00	F	Tulelake/Newell FRC
Emergency Food Bank	05/03 - 05/29	9:00 - 4:00	M - TH	Tulelake/Newell FRC
Senior Lunch Program (60 years +)	05/03 - 05/30	11:30 - 2:00	M - F	Tulelake/Newell FRC
1 st Annual HUB CFRC Softball Tournament!	3, 4	459-3481	SA, SU	Montague, Diggle Field
Children's Play Group	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	3:00 - 4:30	SA	Dunsmuir, Faith House
NA Meetings (every SA)	3, 10, 17, 24, 31	6:30 - 7:30	SA	Dorris, Butte Valley CRC
Story-time, Craft & Movement Activities	5, 12, 19	10:00 - 11:00	M	Fort Jones Pre-School
Open Play & Parent Social	5, 12, 19	10:30 - 12:00	M	Mt. Shasta CRC
Soup Social – Each M – All are welcome	5, 12, 19	11:00 - 1:00	M	Happy Camp FRC
Ending the Stigma of Mental Illness-DVD	6	10:00 - 11:30	T	Dunsmuir CRC
Fatherhood/Motherhood is Sacred	6, 13, 20, 27	10:00 - 12:00	T	Happy Camp FRC
Open Play & Parent Social	6, 13, 20, 27	10:00 - 11:30	T	Family & CRC of Weed
Knitting Club (every T - teens thru seniors)	6, 13, 20, 27	1:00 - 3:00	T	Dunsmuir, Rapunzel's Castle
Bingo (every T)	6, 13, 20, 27	1:30 - 2:30	T	Yreka CRC
Tai Chi (every T)	6, 13, 20, 27	3:00 - 4:30	T	Yreka CRC

Siskiyou Family & Community Resource Centers Activity & Workshop Calendar

MAY 2014 (Part 2)

ACTIVITY / WORKSHOP	DATE(S)	TIME	DAY(S) of WEEK	LOCATION
Relatives Raising Children - Parenting Wkshop.	6	6:00 - 8:00	T	Happy Camp FRC
AA Meeting (every T)	6, 13, 20, 27	7:00 - 8:00	T	Fort Jones, Scott Valley FRC
WIC (Women & Infant Children)	7	10:00 - 11:00	W	Dorris City Hall
Veterans Coffee (every W)	7, 14, 21, 28	10:00 - 11:00	W	Happy Camp FRC
Free Community Lunch (every W)	7, 14, 21, 28	11:30 - 1:00	W	Dunsmuir CRC
Family Story Time	7, 14, 21, 28	12:00 - 1:00	W	Fort Jones Library
Parent/Child Barbecue	7	3:00 - 5:00	W	McCloud CRC
Stop the Chaos (Drug/Alcohol Class for Teens)	7, 14, 21, 28	3:15 - 4:30	W	Family & CRC of Weed
Parenting NOW (Special Parenting Classes)	7, 14	5:30 - 7:30	W	McCloud CRC
AA Meeting (every Wednesday)	7, 14, 21, 28	6:00 - 7:00	W	Dorris, Butte Valley CRC
Mom is Special Family Night - Ice Cream Social	8	5:00 - 7:00	TH	Happy Camp FRC
Cougar Prowl (Corn toss tournament & more!)	8	8:00 - 12:00	TH	Weed High School Gym
Women's Empowerment Through the Arts	9, 23	1:00 - 2:00	F	HUB CFRC, Montague
Make a Gift for Mom Play Group	9	2:30 - 3:30	F	Happy Camp FRC
Friday Night Live (Live band, healthy snacks)	9, 23	7:00 - 10:00	F	McCloud High School
Story-time (every 2 nd & 4 th Tuesday)	13, 27	10:00 - 11:00	T	McCloud Elem. School Library
Pre-School Parent Mtg. (Pre-school Readiness)	13	5:30 - 7:30	T	Tulelake/Newell FRC
Seeing Red & Knowing What to Do	13, 20	5:30 - 8:00	T	Mt. Shasta CRC
Lunch & Learn - Ending Stigma of Mental Illness	14	12:00 - 2:00	W	Yreka CRC
Enhance Positive Brain Dev. In Children	14	6:00 - 7:30	W	Family & CRC of Weed
Healthy Cooking - Vital Options	15, 27	3:30 - 5:30	T, TH	McCloud High Culinary Class
Senior Appreciation Day	17	TBD	SA	Montague City Park
McCloud Community Meal (Honoring Vets)	18	1:00 - 4:00	SU	McCloud, American Legion Hall
Senior Bingo & Potluck	19	1:00 - 2:00	M	Dorris, Butte Valley CRC
Positive Discipline - Parenting Workshop	20	6:00 - 8:00	T	Dunsmuir CRC
WIC (Women & Infant Children)	20	10:00 - 2:00	T	Tulelake/Newell FRC
Grief and Loss	22	TBD	TH	Call the Yreka CRC at 842-1313
Growing Up Wild Playgroup	23	2:30 - 3:30	TH	Happy Camp FRC
Dogwood Daze Family Wellness Booth	24	10:00 - 3:00	SA	Dunsmuir, Sacramento Ave.
Lunch & Learn - Understanding Anxiety	28	11:30 - 1:00		Mt. Shasta CRC
Veteran's Services	29	10:00 - 12:00	TH	Dorris, Butte Valley CRC
Medicare Support Services	Call for appt.	9:00 - 4:00	M-TH	Family & CRC of Weed, 938-9914

Siskiyou Family & Community Resource Centers

Activity & Workshop Calendar

MAY 2014

BUTTE VALLEY COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

AA / NA Meetings For more information, call the Butte Valley CRC at 397-2273.

WIC (Women & Infant Children) (1st W of each month) Location: Dorris City Hall.

For information, call the Butte Valley CRC at 397-2273.

Senior Bingo & Potluck For more information, call the Butte Valley CRC at 397-2273.

Veteran's Services For more information, call the Butte Valley CRC at 397-2273.

DUNSMUIR COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Children's Play Group (0-5 years) Free. Parent and small child play group featuring an art project and healthy snack. Wonderful new toys & children's play furniture! Location: Faith House (5964 Dunsmuir Ave.)

For more information, call the Dunsmuir CRC at 235-4400.

"A New State of Mind": Ending the Stigma of Mental Illness Stigma associated with mental illness can be more destructive than the illness itself. This event can help you improve your knowledge about this issue & show how you can play a role in ending stigma, & help build a stronger, healthier California. Narrated by award-winning actress Glenn Close, this DVD informs of struggles, recovery, & resilience of people in the face of mental health challenges.

Free Brunch & child care provided. Please RSVP at 842-1313.

Knitting Club Knitting class for all skill levels. Free. Meets at Rapunzel's Castle (5817 Dunsmuir Ave.)

For information, call Dunsmuir CRC at 235-4400.

Free Community Lunch Come by our main office & enjoy a bag lunch; every Wednesday.

For information, call the Dunsmuir CRC at 235-4400.

Positive Discipline Are you struggling with your child's challenging behavior? This workshop will provide you with tips for dealing with your child's challenging behavior in a positive way. Facilitator: Mike Pautz, LMFT, specializing in working with children, adolescents, adults & families impacted by trauma. Dinner and child care are provided.

To register and for more information, call the Dunsmuir CRC at 235-4400.

Dunsmuir Dogwood Daze Family Wellness Booth William Townsend, DDS, will hand out children's dental kits & speak to children about the importance of good dental hygiene. Nutritionist Patti Guthrie will hand out children's cook books & discuss the benefits of healthy eating. Family Wellness Booth will feature free edible fruit art for small children & free children's dental kits, cookbooks & story books. The Booth will also provide information about First 5 Siskiyou, CalFresh, Communities NOW, & other Resource Center events & services. For more information, call the Dunsmuir CRC at 235-4400.

HAPPY CAMP FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Soup Social Each Monday – open to everyone. Free. For more information, call Happy Camp FRC at 493-5117.

Fatherhood Is Sacred, Motherhood Is Sacred Native American parent education.

For more information, call Happy Camp FRC at 493-5117.

Veterans Coffee For more information, call Happy Camp FRC at 493-5117.

Make a Gift for Mom Play Group For more information, call Happy Camp FRC at 493-5117.

Mom Is Special Family Night Ice Cream Social for kids of all ages to make gifts for Mom.

For information, call Happy Camp FRC at 493-5117.

Relatives Raising Children – Parenting Workshop Topics include: Winning at Parenting, Trauma & Attachment, Ideas for Discipline, Accessing Resources for Your Child, & Caring for Yourself. Facilitator: Free. Child care & dinner are provided.

For more information, call Happy Camp FRC at 493-5117.

Growing Up Wild Playgroup (For infants, toddlers, & pre-school age children) For information, call 493-5117.

HUB COMMUNITIES FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

1st Annual HUB CFRC Softball Tournament! Co-Ed Softball Tournament Fundraiser -- \$250.00 per Team; Maximum 10 teams. It's now a HUB thing! **For more information, call the HUB CFRC at 459-3481.**

Tai Chi. Come try tai chi! **For more information, call the HUB CFRC at 459-3481.**

Women's Empowerment Through the Arts. Come join us as we discover the empowering effects of friendship & creativity. Art supplies & food will be provided. **For more information, call the HUB CFRC at 459-3481.**

Senior Appreciation Day. **For more information, call the HUB CFRC at 459-3481.**

MCCLLOUD COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Parent/Child Barbecue. **For more information, call the McCloud CRC at 964-3250.**

Parenting NOW – Special Parenting Classes. Facilitator: Mike Pautz, LMFT. Dinner & child care are provided. **For information, call 964-3250.**

Friday Night Live! There will be a live band, open court basketball & table tennis games, and healthy snacks! This is a closed door event (i.e. students are not allowed to leave event until closing). **For information, call McCloud CRC at 964-3250.**

Story-time (every 2nd & 4th Tuesday) Pre-school & kindergarten classes. **For information, call McCloud CRC at 964-3250.**

Healthy Cooking – Vital Options (Ages 8 years + welcome) Come learn how to make healthy snacks & dips. **For information, call 964-3250.**

Community Meal for McCloud Residents. This event is in honor of our Veterans. **To make your reservation, call 964-3250.**

MT. SHASTA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Chronic Disease Self-Management Workshop - 6 week class (04/30th - 06/04th) - Your Pathway to Health
Learn about working with your doctor, dealing with negative emotions, managing symptoms & medications, setting weekly goals, effective problem – solving, & relaxation techniques to help you live a fuller, happier life.

Please call the Mt. Shasta Community Resource Center at 926-1400 to register or for more information.

Veteran Benefits Services. Siskiyou County Veterans Officer Tim Grenvik offers information and assistance for veterans twice each month at the Mt. Shasta CRC.

These services are offered by appointment only; call Tim Grenvik at Siskiyou County Veterans Services at 842-8010.

Preparing for College. - A special, informative community presentation for both parents and youth. Explore a variety of educational opportunities; understand the benefits of community colleges, universities, and trade or technical schools. Includes an introduction and overview of how financial aid works. **Call 926-1400 to register and/or for more information.**

Open Play & Parent Social. Join other parents and children for this parent-led, open play and parent social at the Mt. Shasta CRC. **For more information, call 926-1400.**

Seeing Red & Knowing What to Do – Anger Management Workshop. Learn new methods of how to manage & cope with anger. Facilitated by Lauri Hunner, LCSW. **Please call for more information or to register at 926-1400.**

Lunch & Learn - Understanding Anxiety & Its Roots. – This workshop is presented in recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month. What are the signs & symptoms, causes, & available treatments for anxiety? The Facilitator will discuss current information, answer questions, inform where to get help, & how to address challenging behaviors. Lunch is provided. **Please call 926-1400 to register and/or for more information.**

SCOTT VALLEY FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

AA Meeting (Every Tuesday) **For information, call the Scott Valley FRC at 468-2450.**

Family Story Time at the Library. Librarian Teresa Johnson reads a story, guides a craft activity, & provides healthy snacks at both Etna & Fort Jones public libraries to children (0-5 years) & their families. **For more information, call 468-2450.**

WIC (Women & Infant Children) **For information, call the Scott Valley FRC at 468-2450.**

Story-time, Craft & Movement Activities (3-5 years) **For information, call the Scott Valley FRC at 468-2450.**

Empowerment through Arts. Creative writing, journaling, & art. **For information, call Vicki at 468-2450.**

Creative Journaling & Art. Empowerment through Arts; creative writing & art projects for teens. **Call Vicki at 468-2450.**

TULELAKE/NEWELL FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER

Senior Exercise Seniors enjoy a light workout & rubber band strengthening exercises as a group in our gym, lead by one of our community members. Membership fees apply. **For Information, call the Tulelake/Newell FRC at 667-2147.**

Dad's Basketball (every Thursday & Sunday) Members of our communities come together to play basketball each week. We have seen 3 generations at a time on the court. It is a highlight for basketball players each week! Children need to be supervised by a parent. Cost: \$2.00 or free with Honker Membership. **For Information, call 667-2147.**

Emergency Food Bank Community members may use the Food Bank 3 times/year, but not more than once/quarter. If a family's needs exceeds the amount designated, they are welcome to volunteer for 3 hours in the Resource Center to qualify for another food box. The Food Bank is closed Fridays, as well as days that Commodities or Farmer's Market are offered. **For Information, call the Tulelake/Newell FRC at 667-2147.**

Senior Lunch Program Senior Center in the FRC is open daily for free senior (60 years and over) lunches. Cost for guests: \$6.50/meal. **For Information, call the Tulelake/Newell FRC at 667-2147.**

Pinochle Seniors play pinochle every Thursday in the Senior Center. Free lunch for seniors is served at 11:30. **For Information, call the Tulelake/Newell FRC at 667-2147.**

Pre-School Presentation (Special Topic: Pre-School Readiness) Featured Speaker: Pre-School Teachers. Dinner & child care will be provided. **For Information, call the Tulelake/Newell FRC at 667-2147.**

WIC (Women & Infant Children) The WIC program is here once a month to connect with the families of our young 0-5 year old children within our community. **For Information, call the Tulelake/Newell FRC at 667-2147.**

Small Blessings Play Day (3-5 years) Children from Small Blessings Day Care & Pre-school will have a play date with staff in the new First 5 Play Room. Activities are available in the gym and a healthy snack will be provided. During this playgroup we will be doing art projects that promote awareness of child abuse. **Call 667-2147.**

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER OF WEED

Open Play & Parent Social Join other parents and children for this parent-led, open play and parent social. **For more information, call 938-9914.**

Stop the Chaos A drug & alcohol class for teenagers. Topics include: What is chemical addiction?; How to build a stable foundation for recovery while identifying high risk situations; & much, much more. **For more information, call 938-9914.**

Cougar Prowl (8:00pm – Midnight) The FCRCW, the Weed High School, & the Weed Parks & Recreation District will be hosting a Corn Toss Tournament along with options to play ping pong, Just Dance & other games. Suggested donation of \$3. Come get social & enjoy your Friday night! **For Information, call 938-9914.**

Enhance Positive Brain Development in Children Learn ways that you can enhance your child's brain development in your home. **Please call 938-9914 for more information & to register.**

Medicare Support Services HICAP Services of Northern California is a volunteer supported program that provides assistance with Medicare problems, helps with health insurance & long-term care insurance, including Medicare, Part D, the prescription drug program. HICAP is not affiliated with any insurance company or agency; nor does it sell, endorse, or recommend any specific insurance. **These services are offered by appointment by calling the FCRCW at 938-9914.**

YREKA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER

Communities NOW—Connecting for Kids (2-day Training) – Let's Make our Community Better & Safer for Everyone! Learn how YOU can make a difference! This training will address how to protect children & strengthen families in our community to prevent abuse & neglect. Topics include: issues affecting children & families today; many ways we can all help protect children; & how to safely respond to worrisome situations involving children. Lunch is provided. **To register, contact Yreka CRC at 842-1313.**

Writer's Group If you would like to find out how journaling & writing can clear your mind, join the group! **For Information, call YCRC at 842-1313.**

Cooking Classes for Kids Kids who attend 3 classes get to take home their very own crock pot! This is a great way for kids to learn kitchen skills & for parents to learn easy & kid-friendly recipes. Keep an eye out for upcoming class dates! **For more information, call the Yreka CRC at 842-1313.**

Bingo Every Tuesday at 1:30, the fun begins. Games cost \$1 each, and coffee is provided. Come join us for some great laughs! **Call YCRC at 842-1313.**

YREKA COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTER
(continued)

Tai Chi Come try Tai Chi! **For more information, call the Yreka CRC at 842-1313.**

Lunch & Learn - "A New State of Mind": Ending the Stigma of Mental Illness Stigma associated with mental illness can be more destructive than the illness itself. This event can help you improve your knowledge about this issue & show how you can play a role in ending stigma once & for all, & help build a stronger, healthier California. We will be viewing this DVD, narrated by award-winning actress Glenn Close, which tells the stories of everyday people through their struggles, recovery, & resilience in the face of mental health challenges. Lunch is provided. **Please RSVP at 842-1313.**

Grief & Loss Debra Wiggle will provide guidance through the mental process of dealing with loss, & how to implement that knowledge to help grieving adults & children in the community. This event is free of charge.

Online sign-up is coming soon; call the Yreka CRC at 842-1313 to pre-register.

*Information about support & services offered at each of the **ten** Family & Community Resource Centers in Siskiyou County is available at*

www.siskiyoucsc.org and at www.first5siskiyou.org



FIRST 5 Siskiyou
Children & Families Commission



Healthy Children. Ready to Learn.



**SISKIYOU PARENTING HUB CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS
JANUARY – JUNE 2014**



DATES	SCHEDULE	PRC	CLASS	FACILITATOR
1/9	6:00-8:00	Scott Valley	Tools for Dealing with Anger	Mike Pautz, LMFT
1/14	5:30-7:30	Tulelake	Guidance and Discipline for Preschoolers	Terry Rogers
1/16 -2/6	10:00-12:00	Dunsmuir	Support for Relatives Raising Children	Joie DeFond
1/16	6:00-8:00	Happy Camp	Transitioning through Power Struggles	Arden Carr, LMFT
1/22	6:00-8:00	Mt. Shasta	Transitioning through Power Struggles	Arden Carr, LMFT
1/23	5:30-7:30	Yreka	Anti-Bullying: Lessons to Teach Your Child	Arden Carr LMFT
1/23	6:00-8:00	Scott Valley	How to Set Boundaries	Mike Pautz, LMFT
1/28 – 4/8	5:30-7:30	Mt. Shasta	Parent Circle: Six Session Parent Support call Mt. Shasta CRC for dates	Kristen Stroud

1/30	5:30-8:30	Yreka	ABC of Health and Education	Colette Bradley, M.S.
2/3 – 3/17	10:00-12:00	Weed	Relatives Raising Children Support Groups	Gloria Endres
2/6	2:00-3:30	Tulelake	Music, Yoga and Nutrition	Terry Rogers
2/13 - 5/1	5:15-7:15	Weed	Nurturing Skills: Making Parenting a Joy!	Toby Reusze
2/19	6:00-7:30	Weed	Communicating w/Respect	Joie DeFond
2/22	8:30 – 3:00	Yreka	The Power Of Parenting Conference a menu of workshops for parents of all types	Annie Kramer PhD
2/24	6:00-8:00	Butte Valley	Dad's Parenting Toolbox	Victor Martin
3/5	6:00-8:00	McCloud	Praising Children and Their Behaviors	Mike Pautz, LMFT
3/11	5:00-7:30	Tulelake	Nutrition (Pre-K Parenting Workshop)	Michelle Harris
3/12	5:30-7:30	HUB	Discipline vs. Punishment	Toby Reusze
3/12	5:30-7:30	McCloud	Raising Confident Children	Mike Pautz, LMFT
3/13	6:00-8:00	Happy Camp	Dads are Important Too	Arden Carr, LMFT
3/13	6:00-8:00	Scott Valley	Understanding Children's Development	Chris Brown
3/13	12:30-2:45	Tulelake	Understanding Depression Special presentation for high school students	Jessica Hernandez
3/19	6:00-7:30	Weed	Stress and Self Care	Arden Carr, LMFT
3/19	5:30-7:30	McCloud	Getting Your Picky Eaters to Eat Healthy	Michelle Harris, RD

3/20	6:00-8:00	Butte Valley	How to Set Rules & Boundaries	Carla Charraga
3/22	9:00-3:30	Yreka Baptist Church	Second Annual Fatherhood Conference: <i>A conference presented by dads for dads</i>	<i>List of Presenters for a menu of workshops</i>
3/25	5:00-7:00	Butte Valley	Parenting NOW	Daintry Zarazynski
3/26	5:30-7:30	Mt. Shasta	The Perfect Balance –Work & Parenthood	Kristen Stroud
3/26	5:30-7:30	McCloud	Raising Emotionally Healthy Children	Mike Pautz, LMFT
3/27	6:00-8:00	Dunsmuir	Tools for Dealing with Anger	Lauri Hunner, LCSW
4/1 - 5/11	TBD	McCloud	Parenting NOW	TBD
4/5	10:00-3:00	Happy Camp	Parenting Conference	Annie Kramer and Chris Brown
4/8	10:00-11:00	Butte Valley	Music and Movements P.S.	Bayla Greenspoon
4/10	10:00-11:00	Butte Valley	Music in the Garden	Bayla Greenspoon
4/14	6:00-8:00	Happy Camp	How to be the Cool Parent and still discipline your children	Arden Carr, LMFT
4/15	5:30-7:30	Mt. Shasta	Brain Games, Songs and Stories for Infants and Toddlers	Chris Brown
4/16	6:00-7:30	Weed	Raising Emotionally Confident Children	Toby Reusze
4/17	6:00-8:00	Scott Valley	Brain Games, Songs and Stories for Infants and Toddlers	Chris Brown
4/22	5:30-7:30	Mt. Shasta	Positive Discipline	Dr. Robert Hughes
4/23- 6/11	5:30-7:30	Yreka	Make Parenting a Pleasure	TBD
4/24	6:00-8:00	Dunsmuir	Transitions Through Power Struggles	Arden Carr, LMFT

5/13	5:30-7:30	Tulelake	Kindergarten Readiness	Jamie Palmer & Jean Lyme
5/13	6:00-8:00	Happy Camp	Relatives Raising Children	Arden Carr, LMFT
5/15	TBD	Butte Valley	Ways to Enhance Positive Brain Development	Maggie
5/15	6:00-8:00	Scott Valley	Relatives Raising Children	Arden Carr, LMFT
5/20	6:00-8:00	Dunsmuir	Positive Discipline	Mike Pautz, LMFT
5/21	6:00-7:30	Weed	Ways to Enhance Positive Brain Development	TBD
5/21	TBD	Mt. Shasta	Music & Movement	Bayla Greenspoon
TBD	TBD	Butte Valley	Who's at Risk When Bullying Becomes Dangerous	TBD
6/3	TBD	Butte Valley	Kindergarten Readiness for Preschoolers	TBD
6/18	6:00-7:30	Weed	Supporting Children w/Challenging Behavior	Mike Pautz, LMFT

Notes: If interested in facilitating a class or workshop, please contact Karen Pautz, Siskiyou Parenting Project Director, at karenpautz@sbcglobal.net. Contact your local FRC to confirm scheduled classes and workshops.